

HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2002



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HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

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Presidential Address

*To the 127th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society,
Adyar, 26 December 2002*

It seems almost a miracle that for a century and a quarter we have been meeting together — members of different nationalities, with differing religious and cultural backgrounds, speaking different languages — but together, with a common purpose and a shared direction. I warmly welcome all the members present here, united once again at this Convention by our deep interest in humanity's progress towards wise and harmonious living. Do not our continued joint endeavours and aspirations signify that the stream of inspiration which began to flow in the last quarter of the nineteenth century has not run dry; that it is still invigorating and illuminating the minds of a certain proportion of the members of the Society, if not all the members? We must be grateful for the privilege of sharing that refreshing flow of spiritual energy, which came through the Founders of the TS and the many stalwarts and outstanding theosophists who followed them. But most of all we are beholden to the Elder Brethren who have been our compassionate friends, inspirers and guides. Let us offer them our devotion and service, unworthy though these may be, knowing that all unselfish work to accelerate the spiritual progress of humanity receives their approval.

May those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with their wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize it with their activity.

Around the declared Objects of the TS, a worldwide nucleus has been formed of men and women who perceive that without a basis of universal brotherhood, mutual trust and understanding, there cannot be an atmosphere conducive to moral and spiritual growth. However, we also need dynamic leadership within the Society at all levels, to spread the teaching and the influences necessary for a radical change in the human mind.

A nucleus within the nucleus must exist, manifesting the qualities of a spiritually expanding consciousness. I believe that now is the time to take measures to ensure that such a core is alive and active to steer the Society in its given task, which is human regeneration.

The statement that Theosophy is altruism or pure philanthropy should be like a beacon light to illumine the path of such members. Altruism is not an

idea or even an ideal to follow; it is an experience, a deepening awareness of the truth of non-separateness. It must not be thought of as a distant or dramatic change that may occur in the future. It must be alive in the present in the form of a profound concern for the spiritual regeneration of humanity. Swami T. Subba Rao pointed out that a self-abnegating, self-forgetful devotion to the religious (or spiritual) good of humanity is like a talisman which safeguards the pilgrim on his path to knowledge and service. Such a quality is acquired and nourished by individuals through the realization that in the many activities of everyday life there are unending opportunities to develop altruism. *At the Feet of the Master* advises: 'Be always ready to offer help where it is needed, but never interfere.'

Every one of us can do a few things, humble though they may seem, which are not self-concerned, but express care for others, and thus cultivate a different kind of mind. When asked by a young student why we should plant trees, Krishnamurti gave an interesting answer. He did not say that it is better for the earth, or that trees invite rain, or give shade. These and other reasons exist, as of course he knew. His reply was that if you care for a plant or a pet, look after it, attend to its needs with affection, you learn to slip out of the normal attitude which is one of self-preoccupation. When you plant a tree and watch it, nourish it, take trouble over it, it gives you the *feeling* — not an intellectual idea

— that you are a part of the earth. When you have a pet — a dog, a cat, a bird, or a horse — something you care for and take care of, when you brush it, comb it, see that it does not catch a disease, you love it and it loves you and so you have that feeling of loving something other than just yourself. This helps to break down concern for yourself.

For members of the TS there are wonderful opportunities to sacrifice the self in order to carry out something which is of general benefit. It may be an offering of time, capacity, energy or money without the desire for benefit to oneself. The Jātaka tales relate in quaint fashion the past lives of the Buddha and teach that central to the attainment of enlightenment is the sacrifice of self. When concern for self governs a person's life (including concern for his own family, friends or community) rather than the general good, there is immense danger of being a wreck on the Path, because the one serious obstacle to spiritual progress is egoism. It is also an obstacle to true service.

How many members of the TS are ready to make even a beginning in this direction? Alas, only a few, as testified by the fact that in every part of the world, though the harvest is plentiful, the labourers are few. What made HPB, HSO, Annie Besant and others distinguished theosophists and outstanding servants of humanity was their self-abandonment in doing the work of the Society as directed by their Teachers. Annie Besant wrote:

Once HPB said that she believed the chief difference between herself and the people she was addressing lay in the fact that she was wholly devoted to the Master.

The core of the Theosophical Society must be constituted of members who embody the pure altruism of 'Not for myself, but for the world I live'. New members, and other members who have not grasped this, must be helped to realize steadily that this is the hallmark of members, not necessarily at the beginning, but as they progress into accepting responsibility for the work. Then many of the problems that arise in relationships, in dealing with property and so forth, which are the results of egoistic thinking, will cease to exist.

When there is an altruistic spirit, there is also universality of outlook. All distinctions which previously appeared important — *my* nationality, *my* family, *my* religious community and so on — fade into the background. A deeper awareness of the equality and the sanctity of everything that lives fills the consciousness.

It is the anchorage in universality and altruism that makes the TS an authentic instrument for regeneration. New members may not realize that the wisdom we call Theosophy flowers when consciousness is imbued with the benevolence of universality. Sometimes enquirers ask: What benefit will I get by joining the Society? And the reply may be: You will receive a magazine

free, you will have the use of the library, or something similar. But they need to be led to ask 'How can I serve?', instead of 'What can I get?' Who can help such members? Only those who have themselves matured in the direction mentioned and who take upon themselves the task of shedding some light on the path of Theosophy for beginners.

The TS will be the foundation stone of future religions as it demonstrates how a deep religious awareness can exist without the trappings, superstitions and divisive doctrines of the conventional religions. This means that HPB's statement that Theosophy is not a religion, but 'religion itself', unencumbered by dogmas, exclusive customs and practices, must become manifest in the lives of many members.

In order to move forward into a new era of work, we must also re-emphasize the importance of delving into the nature of life, its deep purposes and meaning. The real theosophist is not a person who thinks he knows, but one whose mind is open to the truth about life from whatever source it comes. It was not for nothing that one of the Great Ones said: Take a hint from whatever source it comes, sermons may be given even by stones. If we took this seriously, there would be an end to attitudes of intolerance, fanatical or dogmatic commitment to converting others to the 'right point of view', which is of course presumed to be one's own point of view, or to exercise

authority in spiritual matters.

The Lord Buddha is reported to have spoken very profound truths to those who were prepared for it, and in a simple way to simple people, knowing that it is against the laws of Nature to use force. The Enlightened Ones never impose their will on anyone, but help each one to blossom inwardly, at his own pace, according to his own nature when the time is right. Well-intentioned missionaries who try to convert others to their view lack a basic understanding of the laws of life. All religions have to a lesser or greater extent suffered and made others suffer by imposing the belief that others are not on the right path, while they themselves are. This has been at the root of bitter conflicts and many other evils. The TS exists to remedy the situation, and not to aggravate it by making out that within its fold only there is truth. Our work is to encourage people to undertake a journey to truth.

Many people do not realize that there are depths to existence and that life holds a mystery which, when unravelled, confers supreme felicity; therefore they live at a superficial, illusory level, ignorant of their ignorance. To dispel ignorance, one may present certain thoughts and ideas at the intellectual level, like showing a map to a traveller, but it is the traveller who has to decide how to proceed, and even whether he wishes to proceed.

An atmosphere of open-minded enquiry into truth and of profound respect

for the freedom of every individual to grow inwardly as well as outwardly in his own way, at his own pace, is fundamental to TS work. It ensures the TS has qualities that are essential for humanity's progress, and will make peace and harmonious relationships a reality on earth. It is our duty as members to see that our Lodges encourage serious exploration into the mystery of life and the deeper levels of consciousness. The concealed meaning in every life-form, the transcendental purpose of cosmic processes, the justice, love and harmony that underlie everything that happens in the universe and form the basis of evolution — all such aspects of theosophical understanding need to be delved into and grasped in depth as part of our earnest study of Theosophy. When HPB said that Theosophy is not for lazy people, undoubtedly it referred to such deeper understanding and the consequent quality of living, not merely to conceptual, mechanical acquaintance, or even mastery, of the contents of theosophical books. Competence in expounding theosophical ideas intellectually, even if they come from the highest sources, is not a true criterion of progress. Often it only produces the illusion of possessing knowledge and leads to conceit and a sense of superiority over others. What the Upanishad-s called higher knowledge — experiential awareness of the eternal, the real, the sacred — is a gift received by one who is wholly devoted to the

quest for truth and therefore never takes it for granted that he knows.

Thirdly, the TS should help to create a strict sense of responsibility for oneself for one's sorrows, progress and everything else. Quoting from *Kiu-te*, HPB mentions in an article that for spiritual progress one of the qualifications is 'unswerving faith in the Law of Karma, independent of any power in Nature that could interfere—a law whose course is not to be obstructed by any agency, not to be caused to deviate by prayer or propitiatory exoteric ceremonies'. Ignorance on this crucial matter makes people resort to pseudo-gurus, superstitious religious instructions and belief in labelling oneself with comforting denominations such as Christian, Muslim, or Hindu.

Curiously, even members who should know better lament the fact that large crowds resort to so-called teachers who offer them gratifications, rewards and dependence. The TS would have nothing to lament if it remains true to basic principles, one of them being that justice (another name for the Law of Karma) is

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Life is constantly passing from the visible to the invisible regions and returning here again and, inevitably, every year some of our valued workers, who have done a stint on the physical plane, pass to higher worlds to rest and recuperate. Among those called away this year was Mrs Gool K. Minwalla, whose dedicated service for the TS, for bettering

of the very stuff of the manifested worlds, and that ultimately virtue alone helps anyone to obtain what is good, spiritually as much as materially. Therefore it has been officially proclaimed that there is no authority in the TS, neither the Masters nor their advanced pupils, whom we may tend to depend on for progress. The only authority that can truly help any person to advance spiritually comes through inner awakening and the sensitivity of an unselfish nature, growing wider and deeper with a feeling of universal compassion.

In presenting these thoughts, I wish to draw attention to the importance of the TS maintaining its intrinsic character, and remaining a focus for radiating higher influences. Ours should not be only a Society for distributing books, organizing lectures or intellectual studies and fraternizing in the ordinary sense of the term, however necessary these may be. The future of the Society will depend not on outer success in these activities, but on re-presenting the values and truths of the inner world of reality.

social conditions, and for Montessori education earned her universal respect. She was a pillar of the Society in Karachi and Pakistan, but also known in several other parts of the world. In New Zealand, Mr J. G. Patterson also held a pre-eminent position as a lecturer, writer and counsellor. He was at various times General Secretary of the New Zealand and

Australian Sections, and Resident Head of the Manor Centre. His book *The Mysteries of the Existence* has had wide circulation. Another veteran who passed away was Mr Seymour Ballard, loved and appreciated for his work in the TS in America, in the Puerto Rican Section, in Adyar and in England. He was the Assistant Editor of *The Theosophist* for several years and later active in the English Section. Dr Hugh Gray was another distinguished member who served as General Secretary of the English Section and at the Adyar headquarters as International Secretary. His career included membership of the British Parliament and teaching in the School of African and Oriental Studies of London University.

At Adyar we miss the presence and participation of Mr K. Visvanathan, member of the International Executive Committee for several decades and also of the General Council in later years. His ability in matters of administration and finance was much valued at the international headquarters. Mr C. S. Raghavan was a Professor of Mathematics who was on the Committee of the Indian Section after retirement, and later worked at Adyar. His deep knowledge of Theosophy, utter devotion and self-effacing nature made him an inspiration to members. The Australian Section lost Mrs Edna Jenks, a wise, energetic, dedicated member, whose abilities extended to many areas.

Despite these losses and the difficulty in finding replacements, work continues.

The Indian Section's membership has once again risen, from 13,413 to 13,918. Mr P. K. Jayaswal, who was elected General Secretary last year, mentions that more than one thousand members had to be dropped from the rolls owing to non-payment of annual dues. Everywhere, at the level of Lodges, Federations and the Section headquarters, there is need for efficient workers who are theosophically well versed and ready to give of their time and talents to the cause. This is the condition in other Sections also. In proportion to the total number of members, too few are willing to step out of their own little circle ready to serve where called and fill gaps in the body of the Society.

The Indian Section headquarters attracts to its special functions and lecture programmes many distinguished speakers from the universities and other learned bodies in Varanasi. A department for the propagation of Theosophy, with a wide range of aims, was recently set up. Every year, study camps take place at the headquarters, as well as in other parts of India. Early in November this year about one hundred members attended the week-long study of Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court* which I conducted. The International Secretary, Miss Mary Anderson, led the studies at Adyar at Easter time on the theme 'Great Religious Teachers'. A team of National Lecturers toured the country and spoke on a variety of theosophical subjects. The General Secretary also visited a number of Lodges.

New initiatives were taken to create a website, improve the Section's magazine and facilitate the presentation of theosophical material with the help of slides in English, Hindi and Telugu, prepared by Prof. K. V. K. Nehru. Books were translated and published in several Federations. The sale of books by the Indian Bookshop has gone up, and through participation in a variety of book-fairs a wider public was reached. There is much more to be achieved, of course, not only to take Theosophy out to the world, but also to improve the quality of the work.

The other big Section we have is the TS in America with 5,166 members. While the Indian Section has more than four hundred Lodges, in the US a large proportion of members are unattached, or have contacts only in the virtual world of computer communication. Last July, after Dr John Algeo retired, having done the maximum of three terms, a new National President, Mrs Betty Bland, and other Officers were elected.

These two big Sections are steadily growing, while there is a drop in membership in most of the small Sections. This must be taken as a warning, because a small national membership has less resources and chances of taking the necessary initiative to grow. Before the membership of a Lodge, Section or any other body falls too low, vigorous action must be taken to reverse the trend. Serious consideration about what kind of action is needed must be given by Lodge and Section Committees.

Reverting to the TS in America, the 'National Lodge' members, some of them 'at large' and others attached to Lodges or study groups, have been steadily supplied with study material; for example, courses on the *Bhagavadgītā* and *The Key to Theosophy*. Such study programmes for those who do not or cannot attend Lodge meetings may be worth having in other countries also.

The policy of publishing Wisdom Tradition Books and of putting more theosophical material in the Section's journal *The Quest* is being continued. A variety of audio-video material is available for members; national lecturers are travelling to every part of the country, linking the headquarters with members and Lodges, and delivering lectures. At 'Olcott' itself, there are many lectures, seminars and other programmes throughout the year.

In a parting message Dr Algeo highlights the need for volunteer workers, programmes for children and young people, and the development of a coherent and comprehensive curriculum of theosophical study, meditation, service and living. These points are applicable all over the theosophical world: sustained effort needs to be made in every area to inspire and train members to be voluntary workers, and to introduce Theosophy, in a suitable form, to people of different temperaments, ages, levels of education and so on.

In Canada, although the Lodges and Study groups are separated by huge distances, sufficient contacts to create a

sense of unity are being maintained. The former Canadian Federation is now officially called the Canadian Theosophical Association and registered as such with the authorities. The Organizing Secretary has done much to ensure that all Lodges have proper Rules in accordance with those of the Canadian Theosophical Association and the International Society. Their magazine *The Light Bearer* now includes pages in French to cater to the considerable French-speaking population in eastern Canada. A number of pamphlets recently prepared, as well as the website, will be used to disseminate information, and already new members are coming in. They hope to qualify for Section status in the not too distant future.

The General Secretary of the English Section, which continues to lose members, reports that average attendance at public meetings has increased. At the London headquarters, besides lectures, seminars and workshops, regular courses are being given on *The Secret Doctrine* and other themes. The summer school attracted over one hundred students. Other events took place at weekends in the Tekels Park Estate at Camberley, and also at other places.

The Scottish Convention was held in Perth and initiatives have been taken to form new Lodges. Development has been impeded by the inability of the members to co-operate. The International Society has attempted to bring greater order in their affairs and understanding among members, for which purpose

Dr John Algeo and Mrs Ali Ritsema travelled to the country, met the members and offered advice.

Two important events in Europe during the year were the centenary celebrations of the Italian and German Sections, which took place in Assisi in May and in Berlin in July respectively. I was present at both of them and so were a few other guests from outside these countries. The Assisi Convention attracted about 250 participants; and a large historical exhibition showing the growth of the Section in spite of the intervention of war and political uncertainties was much appreciated. The Italian Section has been growing steadily, unlike many others on the European continent. There are 71 Lodges and 1,384 members, out of which 252 are unattached. The General Secretary visited many of the Lodges. As before, several seminars were organized with good attendances. The TOS supported the Eastern European Fund, the Olcott Memorial School at Adyar and the TOS in Pakistan. The German Section's celebration in Berlin had as its theme 'Discovering the Unending'. Here too an exhibition was organized. About one hundred participants, including a few from other countries, made the event truly international. Both these occasions have been reported in detail in *The Theosophist*.

In Finland, public lectures were presented in many cities; lectures were also given in two Estonian towns. The summer school in Kreivila had Miss

Mary Anderson speaking on the great spiritual teachers of humanity. Various other activities took place there, such as sending to members three Newsletters in the year along with an article for individual study. Translation work is going on steadily and attempts are being made to make Theosophy widely known.

Work in Scandinavia is proceeding as usual; in Sweden their summer school was on 'holism', and in the autumn a mini-school was held in Stockholm dealing with the spiritual search in Christianity, Islam and Tibetan Buddhism. In Norway there are only 33 members while in Denmark there are 25. Iceland has a larger membership and has many more activities.

In the Dutch Section *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Divine Plan* are being studied as part of a national programme. The summer school took place at the Naarden Centre in July on the theme 'The Dynamics of Wholeness'. Publication work and the sale of books at various fairs and during events in Naarden are regular activities. In Belgium there were serious problems owing to differences over property matters. Peace has been restored as some members of the Board resigned, and normal activities are going on. It is proposed to have a study group in Flemish, as a proportion of the population uses that language, and to revive the Order of Service. Visitors included the International President, Prof. P. Krishna and Prof. Aryel Sanat.

In the French Section regular activities take place in Paris and Marseilles, while

Lodges in other towns are active periodically. Apart from their magazine a number of other publications are brought out every year. The Theosophical Order of Service is very active. The report from Spain says that there are 322 active members, and their summer school was attended by 190 members and non-members. The General Secretary visited several Lodges. In Portugal routine work seems to go on. The brief report received is not from the General Secretary. In Greece, we are told, they made progress in reprinting *The Key to Theosophy*. Lectures and discussions on theosophical themes are going on steadily.

Austria, Slovenia and Hungary all have small numbers of members. In Slovenia they concentrated their studies on the constitution of man and preparation for yoga. Several members from Slovenia attended the Italian Section's centenary celebration and the School of the Wisdom held in Naarden. They are trying to collect archival material going back to 1920, when Theosophy was introduced into the country. The yearly gathering in Austria was devoted to the teachings in the Mahatma Letters. Members and sympathizers met during the year in three Hungarian towns. Only one study group is active, discussing theosophical subjects. Attempts are being made to organize a monthly public lecture in Budapest.

The Presidential Representative in Russia reports that their study groups work seriously on such books as the *Bhagavadgītā* and *At the Feet of the*

Master. A summer school with twenty-five participants took place in July in the Ural mountains on the theme 'Creating Character'. Vegetarian meals were served. In Moscow a three-day seminar was held in September, and in August Miss Mary Anderson visited the Ukraine and conducted two seminars and gave several lectures. Some members from Russia and the Ukraine took part in the School of the Wisdom at Naarden.

The Convention of the Southern African Section was held in the countryside, with the aim of strengthening mutual relationship instead of listening to lectures. It is reported to have been a success. The membership has risen from 287 to 324. Their TOS undertook such tasks as counselling, making donations to worthy organizations, peace prayers and the rehabilitation of young drug addicts. The General Secretary and his wife visited some Lodges and met many members, while the Assistant General Secretary was able to meet the officers of the West African Section during a visit to Ghana.

In West Africa they conducted a course for workers on 'Death and After' in their School of the Wisdom. A weekend seminar at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi on the subject of Theosophy had a good attendance. There has been a decline in the number of members because of lapses due to inability to pay, but the annual dues were increased all the same, and a

beginning was made to create an investment fund with contributions mainly from four members. A first floor is being constructed over the present headquarters building in Accra, Ghana. Theosophical books have been selling well. The General Secretary visited some Lodges and reports that they have advertised in a widely-circulated newspaper how Theosophy can help us to be more responsible for our thoughts, words and deeds, be more content at a deep level, and maintain the nobility of character appropriate for human beings.

In Togo, the Organizing Secretary visited the Lodges and spoke to members. The economy is in a poor state, and only half the number of members pay dues. One of them broadcast programmes for six months on a private radio, propagating vegetarianism and speaking on karma and reincarnation as well as giving readings from *At the Feet of the Master*. They are negotiating terms for continuing these broadcasts. The Ivory Coast is in turmoil, the economy is breaking down and the TS is in a crisis.

In Mexico five seminars were organized to coincide with the National Councils meetings, clarifying different points for the Council Members and Lodge Presidents. Two series of lectures were arranged at the national headquarters. The annual conference of the members in the Caribbean area took place in Merida, Yucatan, in October, with good participation. There was also a business meeting of the Inter-

American Federation in Merida, when Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind was elected President of the Federation in the place of Mr Alfredo Puig. All the year round at Bogota, Colombia, there were lectures and courses, especially a meditation course based on books by theosophists. Twice a year they publish selections of theosophical articles from various magazines. Activities were channelled along four lines, namely education, training, environment and finance. In neither of these reports have we received information of what goes on outside the capital city.

The three Lodges in Costa Rica are also concentrated in the capital. The year 2002 was declared a year of renovation and integration among the members and Lodges. Several courses were given and study programmes conducted. A small number of members in Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador are holding the fort of the Regional Association in Central America. In Puerto Rico they had a basic course in Theosophy and a series of lectures by Mr Fernando de Torrijos from the USA.

The Cuban Section is trying to make self-transformation the core of its programmes. It is reported that an increasing number of young people are attending a basic course in Theosophy. The annual convention was on the theme 'The Essential Work of the TS'. Two study groups are at work on the teachings of Krishnamurti and of *The Secret Doctrine*. A summer workshop

on J. Krishnamurti and the theosophical teaching was a notable success. The General Secretary of the Mexican Section and two other visitors provided much stimulation.

The Brazilian Section continues its broadcasts through three different television channels. One of them is the national channel, which reaches sixty million people, and the viewers of the theosophical programme are estimated to be nine hundred thousand. The publication of books in Portuguese is also an important activity. Owing to the difficult economic condition, there is a slight decrease of membership in this, the largest Section in Latin America.

Young members are taking responsibility for work in Argentina. They had their annual camp in silence, with young people from different cities participating. Summer and winter schools were held in the theosophical centre in San Raphael to discuss theosophy and the work of the TS, and to understand the implications of aspiring for discipleship. Emphasis on silence, pondering and study, alternating with talks and discussions, is being adopted as a means to deeper assimilation. Participants at gatherings have also shared the work of cleaning and cooking. The General Secretary and his Assistant visited many Lodges and study groups. As in other South American countries, economic problems made it difficult for members to pay dues, but this was made up by donations from others.

Resulting from visits by Mrs Terezinha Kind, activity has been started in Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay. For the time being, Paraguayan members are attached to the TS in Bolivia, where study and training sessions, public lectures and youth activities, including yoga and nutrition programmes oriented to vegetarianism, were organized. The great event of the year was the purchase of a building for the TS with the help of the International Society. In Peru, the study group called Verdad has applied to be chartered as a Lodge, thus bringing the number of Lodges up to two. Selected articles, including the Watch-Tower Notes from *The Theosophist*, are translated into Spanish and given free to members. The TOS distributed suitable presents to children and books to prisoners. In Chile the four Lodges studied theosophical writings and organized public lectures and panel discussions in Santiago. Much publicity was done through advertisements, the web-page, and so on, in spite of which the number of members decreased slightly. In Uruguay also work continues to be concentrated in the capital city. The Lodges go on with their normal work, but no new members have joined.

Monthly public lectures in Karachi are said to have made an impact and brought the TS increasingly to the attention of citizens. The important theosophical days were commemorated and members' meetings and study took place. *The Karachi Theosophist* is distributed free of charge to members and

other interested persons. The Lodge in Hyderabad (Sind) is being revived. In Sri Lanka projects are at a standstill, but we hope for improvement.

After a long time a new Lodge is being chartered in central Java. The Jakarta, Semarang and Sala Lodges welcomed a gift of books from the Netherlands, after the visit of Mrs Ali Ritsema last year, as most of the senior members are fluent in Dutch and not in English. Mr Pedro Oliveira visited Indonesia and spoke at the annual convention held in Sala in April, and lectured in Jakarta as well. Mr Matius Ali of Kreshna Lodge in Jakarta received a scholarship to attend the School of Theosophy in Springbrook, Australia. Two Indonesian members participated in the retreat on 'Self-transformation and Development' organized by the Singapore Lodge in Batam Island across the Singapore strait. A veteran member, Mr Soemardi, passed away; he had been a serious student of Theosophy and member of the TS for seventy years.

The Presidential Representative for South-East Asia laments the inability to communicate with the recently established four Lodges in Bangladesh. Singapore Lodge is the biggest in this area, with more than 200 members. It has been growing largely because of the untiring work of Mr and Mrs Chong Sanne, who present a varied and interesting programme of studies, lectures and discussions, supported by a News Bulletin. Two stalwarts of the

Lodge, Mr Kwee Sim Kjiang and Mrs Rose Weerekoorn, passed away recently.

In Australia the first of two national workshops was held in June to explore the work in the country. The Section has 1,350 members spread over a huge area. The General Secretary, Mrs Linda Oliveira, and Mr Pedro Oliveira, Education Coordinator, spoke at many places, supported by other lecturers. Programmes were held in the several theosophical centres and more than one overseas lecturer toured the country. In her report the General Secretary says: 'Every small piece of worthwhile work we do for the TS in Australia contributes to the vibrancy of the greater whole (the International Society with its spiritual heart at Adyar) and the strength of our worldwide work.' If such a realization were to pervade all the units of the TS worldwide, our nucleus of universal brotherhood would be very strong; unfortunately, the global perspective is often overshadowed by immediate, local concerns.

Miss Diane Kynaston and Dr Anthony Pisano were guest lecturers in New Zealand. Dr Pisano discussed with members and the public the implications of genetic engineering in relation to the holistic world view. The General Secretary reports that during the year they focused mainly on the governance of the National Section. The membership is down to 1,036. Two new Lodges were chartered in the Philippines. The General Secretary conducted self-transformation seminars throughout the country, addressing

government agencies, educational institutions, religious groups, private companies, the general public and others. It has been adopted as a course by some educational institutions. The TOS opened the 'Golden Link' school in Caloocan City.

It is doubtful whether the Lodge in Korea will sustain itself. In Israel, Covenant Lodge has gone on with members' meetings to discuss theosophical subjects, and also public programmes in a rented hall. They continue to spend a day every month in a natural environment for study and meditation. Miss Mary Anderson, International Secretary, conducted a weekend seminar on living Theosophy and gave several lectures.

I toured Europe last summer visiting eight countries. After a series of lectures in Brussels, I spoke at several places in Italy both to members and to the public. At the Naarden Centre there were two week-long sessions of the School of the Wisdom, the first on Self-knowledge and the second on the *Bhagavadgītā*, with talks by me, followed by discussions and questions and answers. I also lectured at the French Section's convention and the Dutch summer school, making a brief visit in between to Estonia, where the lectures at the summer school attracted many people. In India, at the invitation of the Madras Federation, the Pune Lodge, Adyar Lodge, Delhi Federation, Marathi and Karnataka Federations, I directed study programmes or spoke at conferences. At the Indian Section headquarters, a week-long session on

Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court* attracted members from several Federations.

The Vice-President, Dr John Algeo, was still engaged with the work of the American Section during much of the year, and with moving back from 'Olcott' to Georgia. Later, he and Mrs Algeo were in Toronto, Canada, for their conference, and in England, where he gave several lectures. We have been very happy to have them both at Adyar since early December.

Miss Mary Anderson toured Europe, beginning with Dublin and Belfast in Ireland, and proceeding to Tel-Aviv in Israel, then Finland, Slovenia, Croatia, and Cervignano in Italy. In Slovenia she lectured at four different places and spoke twice in Zagreb, Croatia. She also spoke at the centenary celebration in Germany and then visited Munich, Hamburg and Dusseldorf in Germany. For the second time, she travelled to Eastern Europe, giving seminars and lectures in Kiev and Dnepropetrovsk in the Ukraine. In India, she was able to speak only at the Utkal Federation Conference and at Adyar.

Among other lecturers who travelled internationally were Mr Pedro Oliveira, who lectured in Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia, which are part of the Indo-Pacific Federation, of which he is the President. Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, Chairman of the European Federation, travelled within Europe and in French-speaking Canada, and gave a course at the Krotana School of Theosophy.

Professor Aryel Sanat lectured at some places in Europe, before directing the School of the Wisdom in Adyar.

There have been changes in the team of officers of the TS. Dr John Algeo was elected Vice-President of the Society from 1 January of this year. Miss Mary Anderson was appointed International Secretary from 21 January in place of Mrs Dolores Gago, who has been busy with the work of the School of the Wisdom. Mr Jan Kind, who was Officer-in-Charge of the Archives, relinquished his work for personal reasons, and a suitable archivist is now needed for directing the department's work, including the collection of new material, repair and restoration of fragile documents, cataloguing, computerizing and providing information to enquirers.

The Adyar Library was happy to welcome back Dr S. Sankaranarayanan, who returned to the Library when his health improved. The Director, Dr K. K. Raja, received an award from the Sanskrit Academy in Chennai. Publication work as well as services continue as usual. Among the new publications are: *A Descriptive Catalogue of MSS on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K. V. Sharma; an English translation of the *Vaishnava Upanishad-s* by Professor A. A. Ramanathan; and an introduction to the *Chāndogyopanishad* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan. As usual, many scholars and other visitors from India and abroad came to this famous institution.

The Theosophical Publishing House has been doing very well. Recently, a pharmaceutical company in Gujarat ordered about 2,000 copies of the *Bhagavadgitā* text with Annie Besant's English translation, and other companies have also ordered considerable numbers of it through booksellers. After many years, the TS in England ordered a large quantity of Adyar Library books, back issues of the Library Journal and Adyar incense. The TS in America is always our best customer. TPH has appointed distributors in New Zealand and Singapore to cover South-East Asia. For the first time, enquiries have been received from Eastern Europe and Africa. All of our magazines are steadily gaining popularity and members can do much to increase circulation by introducing them to friends, relatives, libraries and institutions. The TPH participated in a number of bookfairs.

New publications included *The Science of Self-realization* by Mr N. S. Marathe, an Indian member who was very well versed in Theosophy and Indian thought; *The Human Journey* by Miss Joy Mills; *Consciousness: Its Nature and Action* by N. Sri Ram, published long ago by the TS in England; an Indian edition of *Whispers from the Other Shore* by Dr Ravi Ravindra; and *An Introduction to 'Occult Chemistry'* by Dr M. Srinivasan. Among recent publications of books long out of print were *Avatāra-s* by Annie Besant, and *The Absorbent Mind* by Maria Montessori. Fifteen other titles were reprinted during the year.

Professor Ravi Ravindra directed the School of the Wisdom once again from 7 January to 14 February on the theme 'J. Krishnamurti in the Light of Indian Philosophy'. There were students from Australia, Brazil, England, Germany, New Zealand, Russia, Switzerland and the USA and, of course, from India. The students were helped to become familiar with the TS at Adyar and took part in the study of the Three Objects in the afternoons, coordinated by the School Secretary, Mrs Dolores Gago. The second session of the School on 'J. Krishnamurti in Theosophical History' was directed by Professor Aryel Sanat from 7 October to 29 November. There were eleven students from abroad and sixteen from India, with staff members and others participating in the morning sessions. The Director outlined how self-transformation has been at the heart of theosophical teachings from HPB to Krishnamurti. Afternoon sessions conducted by Mrs Gago were on 'Kriya Yoga and the Constitution of Man'.

The Olcott Memorial School and HPB Hostel are running well. A special programme has been started at our Vocational Training Centre, which is ably supervised by Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan, under the auspices of the National Institute of Fashion Technology. Young women are being trained in our centre to tailor dresses in accordance with designs given by the Institute, using textiles recommended by them. This will teach them special skills and enable them to find profitable employment. The

normal training in tailoring by our centre has also been very popular and there are many applications to join the courses. The Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary is almost self-supporting because of donations. Equipment is being purchased for an operation theatre. At the Scout Camping Centre more than 3,000 children, most of them scouts, had a good time in the beautiful environment of Adyar. The camping activities greatly benefit the boys and girls who normally live and learn in congested urban surroundings.

The programme of providing additional accommodation for Convention delegates to make their stay more convenient is almost completed. The wood of many trees that died because of water shortage has been utilized to make bedside tables, writing desks, and other necessary pieces of furniture. A lift has been installed in Leadbeater Chambers. The columns have been constructed for a new high-level water tank to replace the eighty-year-old steel tank after it was declared unsafe by experts. Work has progressed on various buildings needing renovation and replacement of electric wiring. There is a special programme to renovate Heritage Buildings, such as Olcott Bungalow, which are deteriorating. Substantial expenditure will have to be incurred to put them in good condition, especially the headquarters building.

It is essential for all of us to keep in

mind that our activities — conferences, study classes, gatherings of every kind — are all ultimately intended only to teach us to live and to see through the veil of *māyā* the hidden purposes of the universe. A life of universal brotherhood reflecting our deepening sense of oneness must gradually become our permanent state of consciousness. Quoting the Lord Buddha, who said, Hatred ceases not by hatred at any time, Annie Besant gave the following inspiring advice:

But He breathed the secret of release when He continued: Hatred ceases by love. When the ego who has paid his debt of the past by the suffering of inflicted wrong is wise enough, brave enough, great enough to say, amid the agony of body or of mind: I forgive! then he cancels the debt he might have wrung from his ancient foe, and the bond forged by hate melts away forever in the fire of love.

This teaches us that there are no circumstances which provide an excuse for acting otherwise than in complete brotherliness or, even better, in a wholly loving way. Without love, all action remains futile and the TS, as an instrument for the spiritual regeneration of humanity, must be a living association of people who constantly shed their grievances and reactions, and are ready to practise unconditional love. ✧

Radha Burnier

TREASURER'S REPORT—2001 – 2002

The salient features of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2002 are as under :

A. Income:

The Income for the year was Rs.9,649,464/- and the details are as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2001	Year ended 31.03.2002
	Rs.	Rs.
Interest	13,777,068	12,303,405
Fees and Dues	2,064,566	1,683,130
Surplus from the Theosophical Publishing House	1,251,550	493,603
General Donations	153,420	152,149
License Fees	100,000	140,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	<u>231,400</u>	<u>376,282</u>
	17,578,004	15,148,569
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	<u>5,226,523</u>	<u>5,499,105</u>
	<u>12,351,481</u>	<u>9,649,464</u>

Net interest income for the year is Rs.6,804,300/- after transferring a sum of Rs.5,499,105/- to earmarked funds. The current bank rate is 6.25% and a further fall is expected. This lower interest trend will affect the future income of the Society and therefore there is need to maintain constant watch over increasing overheads. Further, the surplus from the Publishing House is much less this year and it is mainly due to fall in the income from sales.

B. Expenditure:

The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs.13,003,456/-, an increase of Rs.612,286/- over the previous year and the breakup is as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2001	Year ended 31.03.2002
	Rs.	Rs.
Departments	4,779,131	5,347,140
Charitable work	2,140,200	2,785,040
Propagation of Theosophy	1,188,909	953,383
International Offices	625,775	606,712
Establishments	1,471,146	1,837,177
Other Expenses	<u>2,186,009</u>	<u>1,474,004</u>
	<u>12,391,170</u>	<u>13,003,456</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Departments:

The net expenditure of the departments for the year is Rs.5,347,140/- compared to Rs.4,779,131/- in the previous year, an increase of Rs.568,009/-. The broad details are as follows:-

Departments:	Year ended 31.03.2001 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2002 Rs.	Increase/ Decrease Rs.
Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers	-12,450	240,078	- 252,528
Garden	923,984	979,164	-55,180
Maintenance	<u>3,867,597</u>	<u>4,127,898</u>	<u>-260,301</u>
	<u>4,779,131</u>	<u>5,347,140</u>	<u>-568,009</u>

The steep fall in the lodging income from Rs.476,607/- to Rs.316,577/- in the year has resulted in the increased deficit in Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers. In respect of boarding also, the deficit has gone up from Rs.187,614/- to Rs. 265,249/- due to reduced income from boarding and higher expenses. During the year, the deficit in the Garden has gone up from Rs.923,984/- to Rs.979,164/-, an increase of Rs.55,180/- over the previous year. The main factor for the ever increasing deficit is the steep fall in the income from cultivation. In respect of Maintenance Department the deficit has gone up to Rs.4,127,898/- and the following are the major expenses:-

	Year ended 31.03.2001 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2002 Rs.
Electricity Charges	1,224,412	1,337,527
Water Supply Installations	713,556	460,259
Electrical Installation Maintenance	226,046	198,310
Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings	1,742,389	2,144,467
Other Maintenance costs including Depreciation	705,329	694,400
Office Salaries and Other Expenses	<u>347,077</u>	<u>541,120</u>
	4,958,809	5,376,083
Less: Recovery	<u>1,091,212</u>	<u>1,248,185</u>
Net deficit	<u>3,867,597</u>	<u>4,127,898</u>

As usual, the repairs and maintenance of buildings constitute a significant part of the overall expenses of the Maintenance Department besides other expenditures such as electricity charges, maintenance of water supply and electrical installations and office cost.

2. Charitable Work:

The amount spent on charitable work for the year was Rs.2,785,040/-, an increase of Rs.644,840/- over the previous year. Expenses are incurred mainly on education, animal welfare and medical aid.

3. Propagation of Theosophy:

The net expenditure on Propagation of Theosophy for the year was as follows :

	Year ended 31.03.2001	Year ended 31.03.2002
	Rs.	Rs.
Adyar Library and Research Centre	749,922	571,557
Vasanta Press	183,488	111,334
Archives and Museum	139,552	144,134
Others	<u>115,947</u>	<u>126,358</u>
	<u>1,188,909</u>	<u>953,383</u>

Net deficit in the Vasanta Press has come down from Rs.183,488/- to Rs.111,334/- and in the case of Adyar Library to Rs.571,557/- compared to Rs.749,922/- for the previous year. The deficit in the Library is lower due to surplus in the publication account.

4. Other Costs:

The total cost of Establishment and International Offices was Rs.2,443,889/- as against Rs.2,096,921/-, an increase of Rs.346,968/- over the previous year. This is mainly accounted for by the increased amount spent on the security of the estate.

C. Net Income:

The overall income over the expenditure for the year is Rs.42,755/- as compared to Rs.238,447/- for the previous year. This is after considering a sum of Rs.588,915/- provided towards Gratuity in the accounts covering the period from 1999/00 to 2001/02.

TREASURER'S REPORT

D. Capital Expenditure:

The total amount spent on Capital account was Rs.1,613,831/- and it relates to additions to buildings, vehicles, furniture and computer.

E. Overall Position:

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. During the year the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund rose from Rs.41,077,659/- to Rs.41,577,659/- and Other Funds from Rs.75,100,692/- to Rs.82,407,393/-.

F. Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the continuous support of the members throughout the world.

Chennai
29 November 2002

D. K. Govindaraj
Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

From 1st April 2001 to 31st March 2002 (In Rupees)

The Theosophical Society in:	Name of Section	2000-2001	2001-2002
	Africa, East & Central	---	---
	Africa, South	---	1900
	Africa, West	4540	---
	America, Central	---	---
	Argentina	586	182318
	Asia, Southeast	3667	6512
	Australia	192812	83293
	Austria	7333	6361
	Belgium	23152	28048
	Bolivia	21583	31128
	Brazil	450546	241391
	Canada	8705	16637
	Chile	22210	21517
	Columbia	---	---
	Costa Rica	3287	2245
	Cuba	---	---
	Denmark	6559	7399
	England	279179	---
	Finland	55716	54845
	France	33050	---
	Germany	---	40301
	Greece	---	---
	Hungary	---	4597
	Iceland	21994	15438
	India	37350	28355
	Indonesia	9237	---
	Ireland, Northern	1006	1090
	Ireland, Republic of	1328	1110
	Italy	60700	59544
	Ivory Coast	---	---
	Mexico	---	23375
	Netherlands, The	153904	77301
	New Zealand	13580	12515
	Norway	4583	3738
	Pakistan	---	---
	Peru	17203	20741
	Philippines, The	---	---

TREASURER'S REPORT

Name of Section	2000-2001	2001-2002
Portugal	3064	8390
Puerto Rico	27869	---
Russia	---	11700
Scotland	20833	---
Slovenia	480	4631
Spain	28799	35312
SriLanka	1176	---
Sweden	20900	41202
Switzerland	---	76519
Togo	1983	---
USA	436700	486977
Uruguay	24320	20693
Venezuela	---	---
Wales	1994	1669
Lodges attached to Adyar:	---	---
Israel	13884	---
Japan	8484	9102
Korea	---	475
Fellows-at- large	28137	14762
	<u>2,052,433</u>	<u>1,683,131</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS

[illegible]

TREASURER'S REPORT

SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

AT 31ST MARCH 2002

[illegible]

Schedule Numbers 1 to 6 and Notes on Accounts form part of the Balance Sheet. This is Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

D. K. GOVINDARAJ
Hony. Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 2002

THE THEOSOPHICAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-2001	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-2002	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	Departments:(Net Expenditure)		
-12,450	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chamber	240,078	
923,984	Garden	979,164	
3,867,597	Maintenance	4,127,898	
4,779,131			5,347,140
	Charitable Work:		
240,382	Animal Welfare	198,773	
1,171,804	Education	2,144,719	
95,305	Welfare Grants	31,200	
140,586	Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	171,406	
62,900	School Fees and Books	87,600	
63,623	Social Welfare Work	104,742	
	H.P.B.Hostel	25,000	
365,600	Others	21,600	
2,140,200			2,785,040
	Propagation of Theosophy:(Net Expenditure)		
749,922	Adyar Library and Research Centre	571,557	
3,367	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter	4,274	
183,488	Vasanta Press	111,334	
48,800	School of the Wisdom	66,843	
27,770	T. S. Worker's Training Camp	—	
31,110	Information and Public Relations	28,640	
139,552	Archives and Museum	144,134	
4,900	Theosophy Science Centre	26,601	
1,188,909			953,383
	International Offices:		
84,917	President and Vice-President	67,590	
310,346	Treasurer	343,836	
230,512	Secretary	195,286	
625,775			606,712
	Establishment:		
142,523	Headquarters	150,028	
87,403	General Manager's Office	147,592	
189,689	Housekeeping Department	254,873	
182,512	Sanitation Department	174,520	
869,019	Security Department	1,110,164	
1,471,146			1,837,177
10,205,161	c / f		11,529,452

TREASURER'S REPORT

SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2002

[illegible]

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-2001	EXPENDITURE— <i>Contd</i>	Year ended 31-3-2002	
Rs. 10,205,161	b/f	Rs.	Rs. 11,529,452
	Other Expenses:		
4,545	Insurance	4,703	
39,837	Legal and Court Expenses	21,520	
49,690	Audit Fees	35,930	
9,302	Rates and Taxes	88,583	
2,432	Bank Charges	3,737	
1,035,324	Depreciation	1,027,380	
30,501	Motor Car Expenses	26,751	
98,098	Miscellaneous	92,373	
—	Provision for Gratuity	173,027	
116,280	Loss On Account Of Redemption Of Units	—	
800,000	Adyar Estate Improvement Fund	—	
2,186,009			1,474,004
12,391,170			13,003,456
	Less: Transfer from other Funds		
—	Maintenance Department	285,113	
250,366	Charitable Work	2,473,234	
27,770	Propagation of Theosophy	638,400	
278,136			3,396,747
12,113,034			9,606,709
238,447	Surplus transferred to General Fund		42,755
12,351,481			9,649,464

TREASURER'S REPORT

SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2002

Year ended 31-3-2001	INCOME— <i>Contd.</i>	Year ended 31-3-2002
Rs. 12,351,481	b/f	Rs. 9,649,464
12,351,481		9,649,464

Notes on Accounts form part of this Accounts. This is the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in our report of even date.

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2004

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
Departments (Net Expenditure)		Propagation of Theosophy	
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	306,000	Theosophical Publishing House	500,000
Garden	892,000	General Donations	200,000
Maintenance	3,802,000	Interest	8,000,000
Charitable Work		Membership Fees and Dues	2,000,000
Animal Welfare	500,000	Licence Fees	120,000
Education	3,200,000	Miscellaneous Receipts	200,000
Welfare Grants	100,000	Net Deficit	201,000
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	250,000		
TOS International	100,000		
School Fees and Books	120,000		
Social Welfare Work	150,000		
Others	30,000		
Renovation of Heritage Buildings	1,500,000		
H.P.B. Hostel	50,000		
Utilization from Other Funds	(4,300,000)		
Propagation of Theosophy			
Adyar Library and			
Research Centre	750,000		
<i>The Theosophist</i> and			
<i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	95,000		
Vasanta Press	77,000		
School of the Wisdom	90,000		
Book Gift	500,000		
Workers' Training Camp	30,000		
Information and Public Relations	40,000		
Archives and Museum	180,000		
Theosophy Science Centre	30,000		
Utilization from Other Funds	(1,379,000)		
International Offices			
President and Vice-President	90,000		
Treasurer	380,000		
Secretary	200,000		
Establishment			
Headquarters	175,000		
General Manager's Office	150,000		
Housekeeping Department	330,000		
Sanitation Department	200,000		
Security Department	1,200,000		
Other Expenses			
Insurance	10,000		
Legal Expenses	30,000		
Audit Fees	50,000		
Rates and Taxes	100,000		
Motor Car Maintenance	30,000		
Miscellaneous	100,000		
Depreciation	1,000,000		
Bank Charges	5,000		
Provision for Gratuity	58,000		
	11,221,000		11,221,000

HEADQUARTERS

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2002

Executive Committee

Mrs Radha Kumar
Dr John Nigro
Miss Mary Anderson
Mr D. K. Gwindang
Mr Suresh N. Nair
Mr P. K. Jayaswal
Mr Conrad Jackson
Mr R. M. Tolani
Miss Keshwar Datta

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
General Council Member
General Council Member

General Manager

Advisory Library

Visitors

Children

Teaching

Information

Executive Council

Management

Medical Services

Physical and Architectural

Education

Office of the Director

Library

Publications Publishing

Finance

Visitors' Room

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA

Major Arjun Gopalakrishna

Dr K. R. Raja

Mrs Parvati Gopalakrishna

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

OLCOTT ASSOCIATION SOCIETY

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Members

President

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Mrs Suresh Nair

Olcott Memorial School

NPB Hostel

Social Welfare Centre

Kesava Memorial Ashram

Vocational Training Centre for Women

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2002

Executive Committee:

1. Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
2. Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President</i>
3. Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary</i>
4. Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
5. Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>
6. Mr P. K. Jayaswal	<i>General Council Member</i>
7. Mr Conrad Jamieson	
8. Mr R. M. Tolani	
9. Miss Keshwar Dastur	

General Manager

Adyar Library

Director
Librarian

Bhojanasala

Garden

Housekeeping

Information

Leadbeater Chambers

Maintenance

Medical Service

Museum and Archives

Sanitation

School of the Wisdom

Directors

Security

Theosophical Publishing

House

Vasanta Press

Major Arjun Gopalaratnam

Dr K. K. Raja

Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

Mrs Sudha Natarajan

Mr J. Suresh

Mrs Radha Muthiah

Mr Conrad Jamieson

Mrs Uma Nilakanta

Mr P. S. Ramakrishna

Dr S. D. Inbaraj

Mr Jan Kind

Mrs Vijaya Ravindran

Prof. Ravi Ravindra (Jan.-Feb.)

Prof. Aryel Sanat (Oct.-Nov.)

Mr J. Suresh

Mr D. K. Govindaraj

Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Headmistress

Olcott Memorial School:

HPB Hostel

Social Welfare Centre

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary

Vocational Training Centre for Women

President, TS

Miss Sumana Kale

Miss Keshwar Dastur

Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayana

Mrs A. Srirangam and

Mrs K. Kamaladevi

Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

Dr P. D. Jagannathan

Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2002

National Societies and Sections	29
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))	12
Presidential Agencies	9
Total Lodges and Study Centres	1,115
Total Membership 2001	31,996
Total Membership 2002	32,290

Section / Area	No. of Lodges/ Study Centres	No. of Members
1. Africa, East and Central	20	454
2. Africa, South	5	324
3. Africa, West	14	277
4. America, Central	3	15
5. Argentina	28	268
6. Asia, South East	10	364
7. Australia	11	1,348
8. Austria	3	83
9. Belgium	8	108
10. Bolivia (and Paraguay)	15	111
11. Brazil	51	850
12. Canada	10	198
13. Chile	4	31
14. Colombia (and Venezuela)	12	88
15. Costa Rica	3	60
16. Cuba	12	553
17. Denmark	1	25
18. England	41	947
19. Finland	26	466
20. France	29	389
21. Germany	7	149
22. Greece	6	117
23. Hungary	1	30
24. Iceland	8	326

Section / Area	No. of Lodges/ Study Centres	No. of Members
25. India	435	13,918
26. Indonesia	10	204
27. Ireland, North	1	24
28. Ireland, Republic	1	27
29. Italy	52	1,384
30. Ivory Coast	3	40
31. Mexico	19	200
32. Netherlands	12	505
33. New Zealand	15	1,036
34. Norway	3	33
35. Pakistan	1	149
36. Peru	2	37
37. Philippines	17	310
38. Portugal	12	205
39. Puerto Rico	7	104
40. Russia	1	14
41. Scotland	5	200
42. Slovenia	4	58
43. Spain	14	322
44. Sri Lanka	8	81
45. Sweden	6	158
46. Switzerland	5	81
47. Togo	3	43
48. USA	113	5,166
49. Uruguay	5	52
50. Wales	2	34
	1,110	32,144

Lodges attached to Adyar

1. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1	66
2. Japan	2	35
3. Korea	2	15
4. Fellows-at-Large	-	30
	5	146

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The work of the Publishing House progressed well during the year, twenty-eight titles being reprinted and five new books released. There was an increase in the number of orders received. The sale of Adyar Library and Research Centre publications also increased, in particular to the English Section. Steps are being taken to expand the market by appointing distributors where possible, as has been done, for example, in New Zealand and Singapore.

The *Bhagavadgītā* (text and English translation by Dr Annie Besant) continues to be a bestseller, large orders being received directly and through booksellers. Quest Books, USA, are still our best foreign buyers. For the first time, an increased number of enquiries were received from

Eastern Europe and Africa.

Books were gifted to the TS in some South American countries and to eighteen Public Libraries in India. If worthwhile suggestions are made, book gifts to deserving institutions can be considered.

The Publishing House participated in a number of book fairs in India and will gladly take up suggestions by Federations and Lodges for such participation.

The popularity of all our magazines and also of *The Theosophical Digest* is increasing. It is suggested that they be gifted to friends and relatives and to institutions. We look forward to an increasing number of readers.

Mr D.K. Govindaraj
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The Library Director, Dr Kunjuni Raja, was awarded the title of *Darśakalānidhi* in the Sanskrit Academy, Madras, and lauded as the first scholar to question the historical and comparative methodology in Sanskrit research. Prof. S. Sankaranarayanan has returned to his work in the Library, his health having improved.

The following were reprinted:

1. Adyar Library Bulletin 04/2000.
2. *Śrī Śamkara – His life, philosophy and relevance to man in modern times* by Prof. S. Sankaranarayanan.
3. *Lalitāsahasranāma* with English

translation of Bhāskaraṛāya's commentary by Pt. R. Ananthakrishna Shastri.

4. *Madhyamakahrdaya* of Bhavya. The entire available portion of the text edited by Prof. Christian Lindtner.

5. *Laghu-Yoga-Vāsiṣṭha* of Abhinanda translated into English by K. Narayanaswami Aiyer.

The following works were completed and are to be released:

1. Adyar Library Bulletin 65/2001.
2. *Descriptive Catalogue of MSS on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K. V. Sarma.

3. *Vaisnava Upanisad-s* in English translation, based on the commentary of Sri Upanisad Brahmayogin, by Prof. A. A. Ramanathan.

4. Introduction to *Chândogyopanisad* by Prof. S. Sankaranarayanan.

During the year, 328 books were purchased and 1,618 accessed and catalogued, out of which gifts from the President's Office totalled 72, from TPH Adyar 74, from TPH Wheaton 7, and 970 from other sources; exchanges comprised 15; 37 books were received for review and 5 were photocopied; 52 books were laminated, 515 bound, 35 repaired and 82 photocopied.

Catalogue information from 6,000 books was fed into the computer database. Stocktaking of the books in the Oriental and Western Sections was completed.

The supply of photographic frames, the loan of books and other services to scholars etc., continued as usual.

Thirty-eight scholars from universities in India and abroad used the Library for their work and 1,218 visitors were welcomed from India and overseas.

Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The theme of the first session of the School (7 January to 14 February), with Prof. Ravi Ravindra, Canada, as Director of Studies, was 'J. Krishnamurti in the Light of Indian Philosophy'. Words used by J. Krishnamurti, such as 'knowledge', 'sacredness', 'the Other' etc., were explained in the light of Indian philosophy, offering the students a wider understanding of their meaning in different contexts.

During the afternoon sessions, the Secretary of the School coordinated study classes on the Three Objects of the Theosophical Society, in order to help students to discover what is meant by human regeneration. The students also had the opportunity to visit different Departments of the Society as well as the Indian Headquarters of the Krishnamurti Foundation.

Nine students attended from Australia, Brazil, England, Germany, New Zealand, Russia, Switzerland, and the USA, and twelve from India.

The subject of the second session of the School (7 October to 29 November) was 'J. Krishnamurti in Theosophical History', the Director being Dr Aryel Sanat from the USA. It was emphasized that what is called 'the perennial philosophy' can be found in all philosophical movements in all ages and that in different ways there is always reference to the fact that human beings eventually face the challenge of 'transformation'. In the afternoons, the School Secretary spoke on the constitution of man and Kriya Yoga, shedding light on some Buddhist teachings in reply to students' questions. Students were acquainted with some aspects of the Society's

history during a guided visit to our museum.

Eleven students from overseas (Australia, Canada, Cuba, England, the Philippines, Portugal, Switzerland and the USA) attended, as well as sixteen

from India (including six staff members, who attended only part of the time).

Mrs Dolores Gago

Secretary of the School of the Wisdom

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Much has to be done to modernize the department and maintain essential standards. There is serious difficulty in finding suitable staff and making a comprehensive effort to classify and catalogue all documents.

Many items, particularly art objects donated to the Society and now in storage, need to be properly exhibited. A large number of books and documents are in urgent need of lamination.

Computerization will be a long-term project, since information about a large

number of documents will have to be entered. Many documents need to be restored and preserved and then scanned and the contents stored on CD Rom discs.

Each year an exhibition is presented especially for delegates to the International Convention. At other times, students of the School of the Wisdom and special visitors are shown material of interest.

Mr R. M. Tolani

Officer-in-Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial High School: The School reopened in June 2002 with 41 new entrants, making a total of 741 students in all, guided by 60 teachers, 75% of whom are computer-literate. Each class is divided into two or three divisions of 36 students each. Fifty-seven students sat for the Board examination, 66% of whom were successful.

Most children walk to the School from the nearest slum. The School charges no fees, and uniforms, text books and stationery are provided free of cost. A free vegetarian breakfast and lunch are served. Proteins,

vitamins and minerals are added to the food.

Weaker students have benefited from the mixed age groups in the primary and middle classes, and the provision of special classes for Standard IX and X has led to improved results.

The Craft Centre provides skill-oriented education, such as training in carpentry, screen-printing, typing, tailoring and the preservation of food.

A 'literary hour' helped students to develop reading habits. Besides regular sports lessons, a sports week was held in December 2002. The students also

attended scout and guide camps, participated in a turtle walk, in excursions and painting and music competitions. The National Days were celebrated, as well as Adyar Day, when they carried Col. H. S. Olcott's garlanded portrait from the School to the Headquarters building and sang devotional songs in different languages. The children are beginning to appreciate what they owe to their founder.

HPB Hostel: Twenty-seven boys (eight of them being newcomers), aged between ten and eighteen years, live in the Hostel. They keep the building clean and sometimes help in food preparation. Dr Besant's birthday (1 October) was celebrated as well as Children's Day (14 November). An entertainment programme was presented before an appreciative audience from the Theosophical Society. The boys enjoyed a picnic and turtle walk. During the International Convention, they sold the Convention Bulletins.

A health check is carried out at the Hostel and sick children are treated by the TS Medical Officer and referred to specialists if necessary.

Social Welfare Centre: In June 2002, eighty new toddlers were enrolled, making a total of 120 children staying at the nursery from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They learn alphabets in Tamil, English and Hindi and are taught to identify fruits, vegetables, animals and birds by the play-way method and through songs and dances. A nutritious breakfast and lunch are served. Dr Revathi, helped by the staff, conducts a clinic for mothers and children from the surrounding area three days a week.

She looks after the health of the children in the nursery and holds parent-teacher meetings monthly. The children celebrated Adyar Day as well as national and religious festivals and during the International Convention presented an entertainment programme presided over by the Vice-President, Dr John Algeo.

Vocational Training Centre: A tailoring and dress-designing course was started in July with twelve students. It will continue until February 2003. Field visits were conducted to study different materials. Under the guidance of Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan, training was given by Mrs Usharani and Mrs Kenzy David, and articles made by the students were sold at the Convention. The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) helped students to gain experience in designing dresses with paper patterns, gave tailoring instructions and supervised them. These garments made by the students were also exhibited and sold during the International Convention.

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary: Dr P. D. Jagannathan, an experienced veterinarian, assisted by Dr V. Vijayanand, Mr R.V. Narayanan, office manager, and five other staff members are caring for the animals. In-patients are fed three times a day. Prevention vaccinations are given to the animals and they are treated for injury and disease. Instruments have been purchased and the surgery unit will become operational in the coming year.

Ms Sumana Kale
Secretary, Olcott Education Society

THE BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

During the year under report, 3,098 children from various scouting organizations and institutions availed themselves of the facilities of the Centre, which is situated on the Society's campus.

The NSS unit of Avai Home and the Indian Council of Child Welfare also utilized the services of the Camping Centre.

Mr A. Victor Frank

For the Besant Scouting Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

There is much more TOS activity throughout the world than is generally realized. It covers a wide spectrum.

There was a very positive response from members worldwide to the appeal to write to the Indian Prime Minister protesting against plans for a massive expansion of the meat industry.

The TOS is active or embryonic in twelve Latin American countries. The main objectives there are the relief of poverty and aid to underprivileged children, but activities also include healing, peace and animal-welfare work. Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind, the National TOS Director in Brazil, is aiming to reactivate the TOS in all the regions of that country. In Chile, the TOS is alive. In Colombia, younger members are supporting a charitable group looking after needy children. In Costa Rica the TOS healing ritual has been performed for decades. Money and clothes are also collected for the needy. In Cuba TOS activity is concentrated on healing, peace and ecology. In Paraguay regular visits are made to those in need to deliver clothes, food and medicine. In Peru toys are distributed to poor children. In

Puerto Rico the healing ritual is performed.

The Australian TOS continued to give generous financial support to TOS projects overseas, this year to educational work in India, Kenya, Pakistan and the Philippines, but there is a wide spectrum of activities in Australia itself.

In East and Central Africa, donations are made on Founders' Day to homes for destitute children, abandoned girls and mothers, lepers and the elderly, this year over six tons of foodstuff being donated. Abandoned babies are of particular concern to TOS members.

In England, emphasis is on donating to TS and TOS educational and social programmes in other countries, such as the Olcott School in Adyar and the TOS in India, Pakistan and the Philippines.

In France an annual sale is organized to finance the dispatch of clothing, medicine and books to India, Togo, etc. Sponsors are found for the education of over 100 Tibetan and Indian children. Numerous other deserving causes are supported under

the able direction of Mrs Perrette Domer.

In India the TOS has 4500 life members and there are many TOS groups. Efforts are concentrated on education, health and aid to the handicapped, as well as the environment and animal welfare. A recent innovation was the adoption of villages by local TOS groups. The TOS in Delhi runs a free coaching school for children with no formal schooling. Seven TOS workers received awards for outstanding services to the community.

In Italy, 39 TOS groups are active. Funds are raised for many overseas projects, particularly educational, including the Olcott Educational Society at Adyar. Projects were taken up in some African countries. About 300 members meditate regularly for peace. Vegetarianism is being propagated.

Fewer donations to educational work in Pakistan have been forthcoming, due to the International situation, and the TOS there is particularly grateful to those who still donate to underwriting the education of 450 underprivileged students. Other

activities include a Montessori School for over 200 students, a literacy programme in the slum area of Karachi and free medical and other assistance to the poor. Vegetarianism and the ethical treatment of animals are being propagated.

In the Philippines aid is accorded to depressed areas and schools are run, including a new 'Golden Link School'.

TOS activities, including the healing ritual and peace meditations, have started in Spain. Clothes are also distributed. The Swedish TOS supports a boarding school and a teenage community home in Riga, Latvia. In Wales, the TOS healing ritual is performed by a group of 11 members. Support was given to a Nurses' Fund.

In the USA the TOS has seven working departments: Animal Welfare, Arts and Music, Ecology, Family, Healing, Peace and Social Service. The last mentioned has started a campaign for a moratorium on the death penalty in the USA and is fighting homelessness, mental illness and poverty.

Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin
International Secretary

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

REPORTS OF WORK IN

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS,

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES, ETC.

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,
edited or condensed.)

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The Section operates in Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda, with assistant General Secretaries in each of those countries. Except in Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania), there has been a drop in membership. The Section headquarters has been moved from Dar-es-Salaam to Nairobi.

The Lodges, most of which meet once or twice weekly, have studied theosophical books, for example *Letters from the Masters* in Nairobi Lodge, which holds weekly meetings in English and Gujarati. In Nairobi also, there was a public lecture once a month and various seminars were held on self-discovery, the Golden Stairs, the

Objects of the Society and 'Veils of Consciousness'.

The General Secretary visited Lodges in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The National Lecturer, Mr Reuben Thuku, gave seminars and lectures in Lodges in Kenya and Tanzania. In Tanzania he also spoke at schools and other groups and gave a television interview.

The Theosophist is distributed to state-run libraries and the university. Programmes were broadcast on Uganda radio. The National Bookshop has had an excellent year.

Mr Claude Robertson Dunn
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTHERN

Durban and Capetown Lodges organized public lectures, study groups and other activities. The Library in Johannesburg Lodge is now on computer. An extensive new property development scheme is being undertaken in the area of Pretoria Lodge buildings, which should revitalize the area.

Lectures, weekend workshops, introductory courses in Theosophy, meditation, discussion and healing groups were organized for the public. Publicity included advertising in local newspapers and on TV and radio. Video and audiotape libraries were

formed and a Pan-African Theosophical Federation website was created.

The theme of the National Convention was 'Expressing our Oneness' and, apart from the formal opening and the business meeting of the National Council, the emphasis was not on formal lectures but on 'experience', stressing the First Object. A workshop and public lecture and other activities were based on that theme, members interacting and discussing together. A visit was paid to a Buddhist temple.

The General Secretary travelled to

Europe, where he met members in some countries on the Continent and gave two lectures and a seminar in London as well as peaking in twelve

lodges in other cities in England.

Mr T. G. Davis
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

Most of the lodges in the area (comprising Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia and Cameroon) continued their weekly, fortnightly or monthly study meetings. Text books used included *The Seven Principles of Man* by Dr Annie Besant. The General Secretary visited two of the Lodges.

The Annual Convention was held in June. In March a two-day 'School of the Wisdom' for workers was organized in Accra on 'Death and After'. A weekend seminar on 'Theosophy - The Pattern and Process of Life' at a university in Kumasi drew a good audience. These meetings gave members an opportunity to participate in the work and to become acquainted with each other.

At three Council Meetings decisions were taken in connection with the headquarters building, work on which is progressing (members donating

what little they can), and the creation of an investment fund.

A newsletter was issued in November and members expressed their wish to receive such newsletters regularly. *The Theosophist* was placed in several libraries in the four countries in the Section and appreciative letters were received. An advertisement in a Ghana newspaper brought in some enquirers. Book sales, which have increased, are also a useful means of reaching the public.

Mrs. Susan Kaschula, Assistant General Secretary of the TS in South Africa, attending a peace conference in Ghana, took time off to meet some TS members.

Due to the economic situation, some members are finding it difficult to pay their dues.

Mr Paul B. Kwakye
General Secretary

ARGENTINA

The Summer School and AGM were held at the San Rafael Centre, thirty people attending. The subject was 'Theosophy, the Theosophist and the Work of the TS'. Other gatherings were on the themes 'Approaching the Wisdom of the Upanishads', *Light on the Path*, 'Aspiring for Discipleship'

(based on *The Mahatma Letters*) etc. Seminars were also held in other places on subjects such as 'Humanity in Times of Crisis'.

A youth group which started about nine years ago organizes its own activities. The members also work hard for their Lodges. They are responsible

and have some new ideas. The theme of their Annual Camp was silence and it included two days of silence.

The General Secretary visited all the Lodges and Official Study Centres.

The magazine *Teosofia en Argentina* as well as books and booklets are sent to Public Libraries. Videos are being prepared on the activities of the Young Theosophists and on the Theosophical Centre in San Rafael. A new TS home page has been opened, giving news of activities of the Lodges, publications and links with the TS worldwide. The Publishing House

has produced an esoteric interpretation of Wagner's work.

At the San Rafael Centre the usual activities took place in summer and winter. In agreement with the town authorities, public lighting has been installed opposite the entrance, providing more comfort and security. A project to grow food organically has been started, with a view to possibly establishing a self-supporting community.

Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

At the Annual Convention held in Adelaide in January 2002, Mrs Linda Oliveira's term of office was inaugurated as National President and Gwen Johnson elected National Vice-President.

There were several initiatives during the year: A new Education Unit was formed (with Pedro Oliveira as Coordinator) to encourage the study of Theosophy by TS members and by the public; study papers are being issued and work has begun on an intermediate correspondence course. A national workshop on 'The Work and Sustainability of the TS in Australia' has started its activity and the National President is issuing a biannual letter to members, 'Living Theosophy'.

At the School of Theosophy in Springbrook Centre Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin led study sessions on 'The Lesser Known Writings of HPB' and the National

President and the Education Coordinator held training sessions. Participants from New Zealand and Indonesia were sponsored. There are plans to build a separate hall at the Centre. It is being increasingly used also by TS Lodges and compatible organizations. Gatherings were also held at the Canyonleigh Centre.

Mrs. Diana Dunningham Chapotin and Dr M. Srinivasan from India spoke in several Lodges, as well as the former and the new National Presidents, Pedro Oliveira, Dara Tatray and Brian Parry. A total of 44 seminars or talks were provided by the National headquarters for TS Lodges.

The Campbell Theosophical Research Library improved and publicized its research facilities, adding valuable material. The Library and National Archives were reorganized and more closely integrated. The Section's website is being redesigned.

A new booklet, *The Essentials of Theosophy*, was widely distributed. A leaflet appeared on *Theosophy and Islam*. Pedro Oliveira gave an interview

on a national radio programme.

Mrs Linda Oliveira
National President

BELGIUM

In spite of various difficulties and disputes which led to a number of resignations, the work of the Section continued normally. Although the General Secretary had proposed not to continue in office, she was re-elected for a further term of three years.

The eight Lodges – four in Brussels and four in the provinces – are active and study courses in Theosophy continue as well as public lectures in various towns. Visits and lectures by

the President, Professor Krishna and Professor Aryel Sanat were highlights in this year's work. New activities are being initiated: a course preparatory to meditation is envisaged, it is hoped to start a study group in Flemish in Brussels and the Order of Service is being revived. The Headquarters building in Brussels is to be renovated.

Dr H. van der Hecht
General Secretary

BRAZIL

Lodges and Study Centres met weekly. In Brasilia, apart from public lectures and an introductory course, activities included a summer school with the theme 'Ways to Peace – Experiencing Brotherhood, Comparative Study and Practical Occultism', a winter seminar devoted to 'Self-transformation and the Blossoming of Inner Life' and an International School on *The Secret Doctrine*. In Brasilia also, Young Theosophists studied *The Key to Theosophy*.

Many books were published throughout the year. The National Library is being catalogued. Pamphlets were distributed to Lodges and Study Centres. All lectures and seminars at

headquarters are recorded and shown on various TV channels, as well as being on sale. Courses on Theosophy and courses for public speakers are being developed. The internet is put to good use.

Regional gatherings, public lectures and lodge meetings were held in different areas of the country. The activities of the Young Theosophists in Rio de Janeiro are increasing. Many theosophical gatherings were organized at the Raja Centre. Two new Lodges were founded.

The Section supports a home for 20 homeless children.

Mr Ricardo Lindemann
General Secretary

COLOMBIA (AND VENEZUELA)

The seven Lodges in Colombia studied theosophical books such as *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Ancient Wisdom*, *Man, God and the Universe* (Dr. I. K. Taimni) and *Isis Unveiled*.

A public course in nine sessions entitled 'An Approach to Theosophy' was presented twice under the direction of Mr Gabriel Burgos, thirty-five to forty interested persons attending. Periodical meditation courses were also held.

On Sundays there are programmes for the public: lectures, workshops, videos and sometimes cultural events. The lectures are given by about ten

members in turn. From time to time there is a course in presenting Theosophy to the public.

The magazine *Selección Teosófica* appears twice monthly and contains articles selected from *The Theosophist* and other theosophical publications.

The two Lodges in Venezuela (which are attached to the Colombian Section) held weekly meetings, studying various theosophical subjects, including a course for new members, 'Letters from the Masters' and 'Studies in Consciousness'.

Mrs Nelly Medina de Galvis
General Secretary

CUBA

The Lodges met weekly and studied *The Key to Theosophy*, *Human Regeneration*, *The Science of Peace*, *Science and Occultism*, *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, Part 1, and other books. There were two *Secret Doctrine* study groups as well as a study group on Krishnamurti's teachings for members. A 'Theosophical Summer Workshop' on Krishnamurti and theosophical teachings was well attended. The General Secretary visited several lodges.

A basic course on Theosophy was held twice monthly over a period of five months, attended by an increasing number of young people, many of whom joined the Society. The subjects of the public lectures included

'Vegetarianism in the Light of Science and Occultism', 'Ancient Indian Philosophies', 'What is Meditation?', 'What is a Theosophical Lodge?', 'The Buddha and Krishnamurti' and 'The Essence of Christianity'. The theme of the Annual Convention was 'The Essential Work of the TS: A Perennial Challenge'. Attendance was good and some new members were admitted.

Three members from Mexico, including the General Secretary, visited the Section. Their lectures and the contact with them proved stimulating.

The youth group is being reorganized.

Mrs Nilda Venegas Bernal
General Secretary

ENGLAND

Sunday-evening public meetings at the Headquarters attracted attendance of about forty. Seminars, study days and workshops were also well attended. Regular courses included 'Theosophy, a Way to Self-Discovery', 'The Joy of Meditation' and *The Secret Doctrine*. Other topics were 'Egyptian Alchemy and the Tarot', 'Researching the Mysteries', 'Jacob Boehme and the flowering of Western Theosophy' etc.

Three speakers from Australia visited the section, including Dr Hugh Murdoch.

The annual summer school attracted over 100 students. The theme was 'The Unfoldment of Consciousness'. Alan Hughes gave the Blavatsky Lecture on 'The Harvest of Life'. Residential weekends were held at Tekels Park and in the north of England. About 250 delegates attended an International Conference at London University,

organized jointly with the Scientific and Medical Network, on 'Archeo-Astronomy, Myth and the Ancient Wisdom Tradition'.

The Southern Federation's autumn conference on the theme 'Man, Creature of Earth, Son of Heaven' was attended by twenty-five delegates and the joint weekend organized by the North-Western and Southern Federations on 'Theosophy and the Great Religions' attracted fifty-two participants.

The London mailing list exceeds 20,000 non-members. A further 3,000 copies of the London programme are distributed within the City.

The English Section lost four eminent members: Miss Ianthe Hoskins, Dr Hugh Gray, Mr Seymour Ballard and Ms Connie Palmer.

Mr Colin Price
General Secretary

FINLAND

The 26 Lodges in the Section studied basic theosophical literature at weekly, fortnightly or monthly meetings. Monthly public lectures and 'open-door days' were held in the main cities. Weekly public lectures at the headquarters in Helsinki attracted capacity audiences. Public lectures were held mostly once or twice a month in Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia. There are theosophical libraries in eleven cities in Finland as well as in Tallinn. In places where theosophical activities had diminished, information

meetings for the public were arranged. Lodge Presidents or representatives met twice to exchange experiences and seek means of improving lodge work.

Fifty-three members participated in the Annual Convention, at which the retiring Executive Committee Members were unanimously re-elected.

Activities at the Kreivila Centre included the Summer school (with 60 to 70 participants), at which the International Secretary held a seminar on 'The Great Spiritual Teachers of Humanity', and a weekend with sister

organizations on the theme 'Many Roads - One Goal'. A summer school was held in Estonia with the International President as guest speaker, the subject of her talks being 'The Art of Living'. Audiences of up to 80 attended.

Publications included translations of *No Other Path to Go* (Radha Burnier), *Approaches to Meditation* (Virginia Hanson), *The Science of Yoga* (Dr I. K. Taimni), *The Buddhist and*

Theosophical Movements (Dr. C. V. Agarval) and H.P.B.'s *Practical Occultism* as well as a book on Subba Row and an *Introduction to the Mahatma Letters*. Six numbers of the magazine *Teosofi* appeared and members received three letters during the year, containing news items and articles.

Mr Yrjö Kumila
General Secretary

FRANCE

Membership fell slightly during the year.

The main activities took place in Paris and Marseilles, where the Lodges met regularly and public lectures were organized, including a lecture by Professor Aryel Sanat. In Paris a seminar on Christianity as a way to spirituality attracted a large number of non-members. In Marseilles a public course on Theosophy was inaugurated. Three Lodges in other provincial towns held regular meetings. Elsewhere, only irregular meetings were possible, but lodge libraries were in use.

As usual, ten numbers of *Le Lotus Bleu* appeared and were sent to members in French-speaking countries as well as to some subscribers. The publishing house 'Editions Adyar' reprinted some basic books, such as Volume 1 of *The Secret Doctrine* and

of *Isis Unveiled*, *Light on the Path*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *Invisible Helpers* and *The Science of Yoga*. *The Solar System* and *The Hidden Life in Freemasonry* were republished. The Bookshop and the Library (which is open twice a week) welcome visitors and enquirers.

The President was the guest of honour at the Annual Convention, where she gave an inspiring lecture on 'What is real?' and inaugurated an exhibition of some archives of the Section which had been returned from Russia.

Members from France, Belgium, Italy and Portugal attended the French-speaking Summer School in Naarden in August, exploring the subject 'Enter the Path'.

Mrs Danielle Audoin
General Secretary

GERMANY

The Annual Summer School, held in Berlin, was combined this year with the celebration of the Centenary of the Section, the keynote being 'Discovering what is Unending'. It featured an exhibition on the history of the Section.

The International President was the guest of honour. She gave two lectures and answered questions. The International Secretary also lectured. Other guests, some of whom gave talks, included the Chairman of the European Federation and friends from almost every country in Europe. Members of two other German Theosophical Societies also lectured.

Work in the Lodges continues on a regular weekly or fortnightly basis. The

General Secretary visited almost all of them. A new initiative is the visit by more active Lodges, as a group, to Lodges with less participants. Such visits activate the work more than that of individual guest speakers. The lively weekend meetings in spring and autumn in the north of Germany are a regular feature of our work.

The new team editing the magazine *Theosophie Adyar* works harmoniously. The magazine contains translations from *The Theosophist* and some original articles.

TOS work in Germany is on an individual basis.

Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt
General Secretary

GREECE

A new Board was elected at the Annual General Meeting. The General Secretary was re-elected.

The Lodges worked regularly, lectures being on theosophical themes. Comparative studies were also pursued. We have new speakers, some of them from the younger generation. During the summer outdoor meetings were held to discuss theosophical topics. These meetings strengthened the feeling of brotherhood.

White Lotus Day was celebrated and as from now it is intended to celebrate also Foundation Day and Adyar Day.

The magazine *Ilisos*, distributed to nearly 1000 persons, presents theosophical topics. The reprint of *The Key to Theosophy* in Greek has now appeared and is on sale.

Mr G. P. Sivris
General Secretary

ICELAND

No Report

INDIA

At the Indian Section Convention in Adyar in December 2001, the undersigned was elected General Secretary for a three-year term and Mr P. S. Panchakshari Treasurer for a two-year period.

Membership rose again during the year. But workers are needed to run the organization efficiently and Workers' Training Courses are planned. The Section membership records are now fully computerized.

At the Headquarters in Varanasi, weekly study meetings were devoted to *Light on the Path* and *In the Outer Court*; and 24 public lectures were organized. Miss Mary Anderson, then International Vice-President, directed the North Indian Study Camp in October on *Yogic Practices – Yama and Niyama* by Mr S. S. Varma, and Professor C. A. Sinde conducted a Study Camp on 'Thought, Brain and Mind'. At the South Indian Theosophical Study Camp at Adyar in March Miss Anderson lectured on 'Great Religious Teachers'. At Bhowali a study camp on various subjects, including Human Regeneration, was directed by Dr A. Kannan and Prof. C. A. Shinde.

The International President lectured in the Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu and Mumbai Federations. The General Secretary visited a number of places, giving lectures, participating in Study Camps and attending to various administrative matters. The National Lecturers also visited Lodges in different Federations. Mr. Vic Hao Chin, General Secretary of the Philippine Section, held seminars

on 'Self-Transformation' and related themes in several places. The Federations also organized study camps with internal speakers. In the Karnataka Federation 12 such study camps were held.

A Department for the Propagation of Theosophy has been set up, directed by Mr S. V. Tyagi. It will attend to the newly opened 'School of Theosophical Studies' on the Varanasi campus, engage in research and publications, coordinate National Lecturers' tours, organize study camps and correspondence courses on Theosophy, look after new members and redesign publicity material. Draft materials have been prepared for courses for enquirers, new members and advanced students.

A website has been created. It is planned to computerize property data, but comprehensive data are not always available. The Section's accounting system is being reviewed. A pamphlet on 'Revitalizing TS Work in India' has been produced. Professor K. V. K. Nehru has created slides on seven theosophical themes, which can be obtained from him free of charge on internet. A corpus fund has been started to meet expenses in connection with the improvement of *The Indian Theosophist*. The sale of books by the Indian Bookshop increased. A number of books were translated into various Indian languages.

Several Lodges celebrated their Centenaries during the year.

Mr P.K. Jayaswal
General Secretary

INDONESIA

In Central Java a new Lodge will be founded soon, as there are now enough members. They have already published their own journal.

Three Lodges each received a very welcome gift of two boxes of books and magazines from the TS in the Netherlands. Thanks to a scholarship from the TS in Australia, Matius Ali was able to attend the School of Theosophy at Springbrook.

At the Annual Convention, held in Solo Lodge, the President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, Mr Pedro Oliveira, presented a seminar on 'The Theosophy of the Mystics'. The President of

Solo Lodge spoke on 'Mysticism in Java'. Fifty to sixty participants attended. Mr. Oliveira also gave public talks in Jakarta, one of them at Paramadina University, before an audience of about 150.

A recreation study programme was organized by young members on the theme 'The Spiritual Life', with 23 participants.

On 14 June, Mr Soemardi, a serious student of Theosophy, who had been a member for 70 years, passed away.

Mr H. M. Soesiswo
General Secretary

ITALY

The principal activity of the Italian Section was the Centenary celebration held in May in Assisi, honoured by the presence of the International President and many other prominent guests. More than 250 members attended from all over Italy, as well as representatives from other Sections. The Centenary featured a historical exhibition.

In connection with the Centenary, there were various initiatives: The website was improved, among other things a glossary of *The Secret Doctrine* with over 9,000 items now being on line. It is also planned to have the various Italian theosophical libraries available on the website. An Italian edition of the video on Mme Blavatsky's life was produced.

The General Secretary has remained in contact with the Lodges and Centres,

visiting and giving lectures at many of them.

Two seminars were held at Jesolo Lido, more than 50 participants attending each. The 11th Seminar organized together with the European Federation took place in Rome, the subject being the three objects in today's world. More than 60 persons attended.

A seminar on 'Theosophy and the Path of Evolution' was held on five Saturday afternoons at Modena, attended by about 80 persons. Many other initiatives were undertaken with positive results. The International Centre of Theosophical Studies at Cervignano continued its important work.

A new publishing house has started its activity with a presentation cassette

containing the three 'gems': *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Voice of the Silence* and *Light on the Path*. The monthly magazine, a collective effort, appears

regularly in 1300 copies, of which 1100 go to subscribers.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

On days when the National Council was meeting, five seminars were organized for Lodge Presidents and Council Members to clarify different points of view on various theosophical subjects which became apparent during the last few years, for example: individualization; have theosophical teachings been understood, justified or surpassed by modern science?; the method of Theosophy; theoretical and practical theosophy; confusing theosophical terms and ideas. These meetings resulted in some clarification

and an increase in brotherly relations between the participants.

At the National Headquarters two series of lectures were held on the subject of death. The course on 'Karmic Astrology' continued. Foundation, Adyar and White Lotus Day were celebrated, as well as the anniversary of the foundation of the Mexican Section. On the first Saturday of every month bazaars were organized, the proceeds of which went to the Section.

Mrs Lissette Arroyo Jimenez
General Secretary

THE NETHERLANDS

A new General Secretary and Executive Committee were elected in April. The Rules of the Section were finalized and were approved by the International President. Lodges, in turn, are in the process of adapting their Rules.

In addition to the work of the 12 Lodges and five study centres, there are study groups on *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Divine Plan*.

The Summer School was held at Naarden in July, the keynote being 'The Dynamics of Wholeness'. The International President was one of the

principal speakers. In October 2001, there was a weekend for members, the theme being 'the future of the Society'. The Section had a stand in the fair: 'Amsterdam with Heart and Soul' and the headquarters was open to visitors.

A number of brochures were published and two books are in preparation. The magazine appears every two months. The Section Library, with 21,000 books, is now on CD-Rom.

Mrs Wies Kuiper
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

The 2002 Convention was held in Palmerston North, with Diane Kynaston as guest speaker. The programme included workshops, discussions and talks by local members. There was excellent interaction between members performing various tasks in the kitchen!

Twenty-two members participated in a weekend 'School of Theosophy' (a new educational initiative), giving them an opportunity to present Theosophy and to discuss what it is intended to achieve in doing so.

Diane Kynaston visited some Lodges and Study Centres. Anthony Pisano, a member from the Theosophy and Science group in Sydney, also toured some Lodges and spoke on genetic engineering and its relationship to the holistic world view. In addition,

he gave radio interviews. The National President visited all the Lodges and other lecturers also travelled widely.

Monthly lunches and meetings are organized at Headquarters. The Library is much in use and the Archives are now being organized. *Theosophy in New Zealand* has been increased in size. The video library and cassette centre was put to good use. Material may be digitized in order to be more readily available.

Apart from the Lodges in larger towns, six study groups serve outlying areas. There is increasing communication by e-mail between different lodges and members. A newsletter is sent to unattached members.

Mr John Vorstermans
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

Two new Lodges were chartered and another was reactivated. A new study group was also formed and another revived. The Lodges in Metro Manila have formed a Federation. Godea Lodge in Iligan City has purchased a property for a retreat and seminar centre.

Public lectures were held in various cities, including a lecture by Mr Surendra Narayan (former International Vice-President), the General Secretary and other officers and members of the Section.

The Section hosted a radio programme entitled 'Golden Lessons in Living' for three months. The weekly radio programme 'In the Light of Theosophy' continues to be broadcast.

Self-transformation Seminars were held twenty times in the Philippines, to government units and agencies, schools and universities, religious groups, NGOs, youth camps, private companies, the general public and theosophical groups, and also abroad. The Self-transformation Course has also been adopted by some universities

and colleges in the Philippines.

The 'Golden Link School' was opened in Caloocan City – a major educational project by the Theosophical Order of Service. It

started with three kindergarten classes and is intended to extend up to high school.

Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr.
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

The twelve Portuguese Lodges met regularly and the Lodges in Lisbon organized several lectures.

Seminars were conducted by two of the Lodges. The Chairman of the European Federation also held a seminar in Porto in May.

The Portuguese Section was represented by Mrs Hannelore Eibner at the Centenary of the German Section.

Dr Humberto Alvares da Costa
General Secretary

PUERTO RICO

Much work was done on the By-Laws of the Section, to bring them into harmony with the laws of the country.

The organization of the Library is under way, a computer and software having now been purchased.

In April Mr Fernando Alvarez de

Torrijos, who belongs to the US Section, held talks for members and for the public in different parts of the country.

A basic course in ten lessons has now been completed.

Mr Benito Rodríguez
General Secretary

SPAIN

There are 322 members, 13 Branches and four Study Centres in the Spanish Section.

A seminar by the General Secretary in Valencia at Easter on 'Theosophy in the 20th Century' was attended by 90 members and a gathering in August on 'Preparation for the Path' attracted 190 participants, including non-members, the speakers being Trâm-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Isaac Jauli and Saturnino Torra.

'Editorial Teosofica' published the third volume of *Talks on the Path of Occultism* as well as C. W. Leadbeater's *How Theosophy Came to Me*. Dr. Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* will appear shortly. The publishing house also sells a CD Rom with all the works of HPB which have been translated into Spanish.

During the year under report, the General Secretary visited four

Branches and one study centre. The HPB Institute worked to spread theosophical teachings and Isaac Jauli organized short

workshops for speakers.

Mr José Tarragó Ferrer
General Secretary

SRI LANKA

Seven public lectures were held in Colombo, several of them being on inter-religious dialogue. Audiences varied from eight to forty-three. The subject of members' group study was *Isis Unveiled*.

Kandy Lodge is being reactivated and Galle Lodge will be moved to the Vijayananda Pirivena where Colonel Olcott and Madame Blavatsky took Pansil. Otherwise, no reports were received from Lodges outside Colombo.

Twelve Executive Committee

Meetings were held dealing with matters such as the renovation of the Headquarters building, the revision of the Section Rules etc.

A Charter has been found dated 17 June 1880, issued by Colonel Olcott as President and Mme Blavatsky as Corresponding Secretary, giving authority to organize a branch called 'The Colombo Theosophical Society'. A copy is being sent to Adyar.

Mr Tudor G. Jayawardene
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Six Lodges have been active, organizing lectures and study groups on theosophical and kindred subjects, including *The Secret Doctrine*, 'The Roots of Christianity', 'The Flood – Myth or Reality', etc.

A summer school was held on the subject of 'Holism', 21 members participating. Mornings were devoted to study and afternoons to creative work and meditation groups. A mini-school was held at the headquarters in Stockholm in the autumn, on the spiritual search in different religions, with 25 participants. Theosophical work was discussed at members' meetings, based on responses to a questionnaire,

enquiring how members wished to study Theosophy and how they could help the work of the Section.

Self-Culture (Dr. I. K. Taimni) and *No Other Path to Go* (Radha Burnier) are being translated into Swedish and a new edition of *The Secret Doctrine* is in preparation. The bookshop in Stockholm is open three days a week. The magazine, which is issued four times a year, can now be subscribed to and received by e-mail. The Section is represented on the Internet.

The TOS is helping children at an orphanage in Latvia.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund
General Secretary

SWITZERLAND

No Report

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

In spite of the aftermath of 11 September 2001, the collapse of the stock market, etc., the Section remains basically sound, also financially, although activities will be somewhat restricted for a time. But it is reaching out with new initiatives and technology to bring Theosophy to the modern world.

At the July 2002 Convention a new National Board was elected, with Betty Bland as National President and Robert Ellwood as National Vice-President. The subject of the Convention was 'The Ecumenical Path: The Inner Harmony of Religious Traditions'. Professor Ravi Ravindra delivered the Founders' Address.

Membership fluctuates, but is gradually increasing, thanks partly to the Membership Outreach campaign organized by the National Secretary. 41% of the members belong to Lodges or Study Centres and 59% are members at large. The National Lodge has over 700 members; they received study papers on the *Bhagavadgītā* and *An Introduction to Theosophy*. A group of Young Theosophists meets weekly at the Headquarters of the Section. A national Young Theosophist meeting was organized at Pumpkin Hollow Farm in New York. It is hoped that the publication of their newsletter can be resumed.

Olcott, the National Centre, has three full seasons of programming a year: lectures, seminars, weeklong classes and series lasting several months. Especially notable was the inaugural Kern Lecture by Huston Smith on 'A Life of Exploring Religious Frontiers' and his seminar on 'Rediscovering Forgotten Truths', which drew an audience of more than 300. Public classes on W. Q. Judge's *Ocean of Theosophy* and a series on Gnosticism, started in the autumn, have proved popular.

The Olcott Experience programme brings members to Olcott for a long weekend, when they become familiar with the workings of the Society and the Section. There were major improvements in the building, which requires constant maintenance. The National Speaker programme sends speakers to Lodges and Centres throughout the Section.

The online library catalogue, which includes the Olcott, Krotona and New York Libraries, continues to expand. The sorting, organizing, recording and preserving of archival material are progressing.

Quest Books continue their high-quality productions and wide distribution. New editions of *At the Feet of the Master*, *Finding Deep Joy* (Robert Ellwood) and other books have

appeared. Many others are in preparation. The third in the series of Wisdom Tradition Books was published in the autumn of 2001: *Unlocking the Door; Studies in 'The Key to Theosophy'* by John Algeo. Translations of Quest Books have been and will be published in many languages, including Chinese, Czech, Hungarian and Indonesian. A commercial web for TPH is close to realization. *The Quest* magazine presents articles about Theosophy and of a theosophically related nature. *The Messenger* appears monthly with

news of life at Olcott.

Many new audio and video programmes have been produced, notably 'Death and Immortality' by Radha Burnier, which will be sent to all Lodges with an accompanying study guide. 19 programmes are available for distribution to television stations.

There are many plans for the future.

Dr John Algeo
Former National President

Mrs Betty Bland
National President

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

Each of the Lodges in Guatemala and Nicaragua have only four members at present, but it is hoped to increase their membership. The Lodge in El Salvador has seven members and two honorary members and welcomes the public.

All three Lodges meet regularly once a week. They celebrated the theosophical days of remembrance.

Mrs Carmen Aguilar Alvarez
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

The work in all three Branches (Vienna, Graz and Linz) continued as before, members and interested friends meeting once a week in Vienna and Linz and twice weekly in Graz. The talks given covered many aspects of the theosophical and esoteric philosophy and were mostly much appreciated.

Our 'Study and Contact Days' in

'Haus Sanitas' again proved very special, being devoted this year to *The Mahatma Letters*. Guests from Germany and Slovenia contributed to making those days a harmonious event in the opinion of all who were present.

Mr Franz Durkowitsch
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

Much work has been done on new By-Laws for the Regional Association. Lodges are also working on their By-Laws.

As the magazine for French-speaking members is not published regularly, it was decided that *The Light Bearer* will in future have a Section in French in addition to text in English. 25 pamphlets are in preparation.

Only a small number of members attended the Annual Meeting in Toronto, due to the distances in such a large and sparsely populated country.

At two Board Meetings good work was done, including the preparation of model By-Laws for Lodges.

At the Annual Meeting in Montreal, Dr. John Algeo gave lectures to the members and to the public.

The Canadian Regional Association has momentum and there is an influx of new members, mostly due to the internet. Various small groups are active and may in time form lodges.

Mr George H. Duguay
Organizing Secretary

CHILE

The lodges studied various theosophical books, such as *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, *An Introduction to Yoga* and *At the Feet of the Master* as well as articles from theosophical magazines. Arundhati Lodge celebrated its centenary with an exhibition on its history.

Public lectures, forums or panel discussions were held every Saturday at the Headquarters. A cycle of lectures was organized on 'Discovering ourselves'. There were courses for beginners and courses on Karma, Human Temperaments and Yoga. Correspondence courses and an introductory course are also available

on internet. A subject of discussion was 'Theosophy and the Attitude of a TS member'.

We had the visit of Mr Juan B. Cassibba and Mr and Mrs Salzmann from the Argentine. Some members attended gatherings of the Argentine Section.

Much publicity work was done through the magazine, advertisements, posters (especially in the subway), pamphlets, the web page and the radio.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in different areas.

Mr Maximiliano Aguilera Echevarria
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND, NORTHERN

The year under report was exceptional. The International Secretary visited Belfast Lodge in May and attracted a good audience to her lecture in Queen's University, where we hold our meetings.

It is hoped that attendance, which is around twelve to fifteen people, will improve further. Students often attend our meetings and two of them recently joined the Society.

Mr John Doherty
Organizing Secretary

IVORY COAST

No Report

NORWAY

Since the membership stands at only 33 at present, it was decided at the Annual General Meeting that the

members themselves would work to create interest in Theosophy in Norway during the coming year and that no

speakers from abroad would be invited. It was further decided that publication of the journal *Teosofen* would be suspended, being replaced by Newsletters to members as from January 2003. Members will be encouraged to subscribe to *The Theosophist*.

Three books have been translated into Norwegian and will be printed from our database when there are enough subscribers: *Human Regeneration*, *In the Outer Court* and *Yama and Niyama*.

Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

The Lodges continue to produce interesting and varied programmes of public talks and workshops on theosophical subjects. There are initiatives with a view to founding two new Lodges, specializing in the study of *The Mahatma Letters* and of astrology, and a new study group is meeting in Dundee.

The Convention, held in Perth, was well attended.

A two-day gathering is planned for early November in Edinburgh.

Mrs Ali Ritsema and Dr John Algeo have been assisting the TS in Scotland to overcome an acrimonious situation.

Mr Alastair Macqueen
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

At present there are in Slovenia 58 members and three active Lodges (in Ljubljana, Koper and Maribor) as well as one dormant Lodge (in Celje, where however a group of enquirers meets fortnightly). Weekly members' meetings are well attended and there are fortnightly beginners' courses in Ljubljana and Maribor, where Mrs. Damjana Gec also gave two public lectures.

Studies focused on the constitution of man and preparation for yoga and meditation. Mary Anderson held public lectures in four towns and seminars in Ljubljana and Koper on 'Great Religious Teachers'.

Many texts from theosophical

magazines are translated and studied at meetings or printed in our TS magazine, which is also sent regularly to bookshops and some public libraries.

Reprints of Slovene translations of *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path* and *The Chakras* are in preparation.

Thirteen members participated in the Italian Centenary Celebration in Assisi and seven attended the School of the Wisdom at the Centre in Naarden. Four members from Ljubljana visited the group of TS members in Zagreb, Croatia, along with Mary Anderson.

Mrs Irena P. Kristan
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

During a tour by the Organizing Secretary, one of the three Lodges was reactivated and now has 12 members. Two of the lodges are studying *The Path of Discipleship*. Unfortunately, many potential members are attracted by sects which make extravagant promises.

One of our members, taking advice from the Organizing Secretary, broadcast for six months on a local private radio on healthy (vegetarian) nutrition, karma and reincarnation, also reading extracts from *At the Feet of the Master*. It is hoped to continue such programmes.

Unfortunately, the economic situation in Togo (salaries sometimes being paid only in one month out of five) is such that only half of those members who pay full dues are able to do so. Two-thirds of the members, being housewives, students etc., pay reduced dues (one fifth of the full dues). This makes it very difficult for us to make ends meet and pay for the minimum upkeep of our theosophical centre.

Mr M. Dam Tsowu
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

The Lodges, which met weekly, studied *Old Diary Leaves*, extracts from *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Esoteric Christianity* and articles by the International President.

Public courses included a basic course on Theosophy; the attendance was good, but no new members joined, probably because of the financial crisis in the country. There were also public courses on subjects which are not strictly theosophical (nutrition and vegetarian cookery classes, a guided 'Meditation for Peace, Music for the Soul', music classes, 'Discovering how to live in Tranquillity'). The latter courses may attract future members and

in addition they bring in some income which enables the TS to meet its monthly expenses. There was also a basic course on astrology for members.

Methods of diffusion, apart from the basic course on Theosophy, included the web-page and a radio programme on contemporary events from the theosophical point of view. A mini-bulletin for Uruguayan members is published in the Argentine magazine.

The Library is open several days a week. The economic situation does not allow for the purchase of necessary items such as a dehumidifier.

Mrs Ema de Souza Leal
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Cardiff Lodge continues to meet regularly. Members in mid Wales are isolated due to transportation difficulties. But some groups meet to study *The Secret Doctrine*, yoga and meditation, and practise the TOS

healing service. There have been trips to Brisol Lodge. The membership is small but enthusiastic and committed to the three Objects.

Mrs Liz Parker
Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, SOUTH EAST

Singapore Lodge is the most active in the area. Due to regular Basic Courses in Theosophy 46 new members joined, although there were some lapses. A special feature was a weekend class, lasting nearly three months, on *At the Feet of the Master*. Several members from abroad gave talks at the Lodge, including Mr Pedro

Oliveira, who also spoke at Selangore and Seramban Lodges.

The Lodges in Pinang and Thailand hold regular discussion and study meetings. The four Lodges in Bangladesh did not function.

Dr C.V. Agarwal
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA (AND PARAGUAY)

Thanks to the generosity of our members and also of the International Society, we now have our own Headquarters.

The eight Lodges in Bolivia (four in La Paz and four in Cochabamba) each hold weekly study meetings and a common meeting once a month. In La Paz a very successful seminar was held on *Light on the Path*. There were study and training camps on Human Regeneration and the Occult Constitution of Man.

Cycles of public lectures are presented and on every weekday groups meet to study subjects of

interest to non-members as well as members, such as karma, reincarnation, man's origin and destiny etc.

Youth activities are given priority, study, yoga and (vegetarian) nutrition programmes being presented.

The members in Paraguay also belong to the Bolivian Presidential Agency. Mrs Teresina Franca Kind visited Asuncion in May and various activities were started. Emphasis is on the training of members, the study of *The Secret Doctrine* and public lectures to make Theosophy known.

Mrs Teresa W. de Nunez
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

Adopting as a motto '2002: Year of Renewal', we tried to achieve better

integration among the members. Each of the three Lodges met once a week.

Introductory and intermediate courses were organized as well as an approach to Theosophy with lectures on video. A correspondence course was also sent out.

A three-day workshop on *The Mahatma Letters* was held for members as well as a three-day programme on the *Stanzas of Dzyan*. There was a weekly meditation for peace. Study groups dealt with *The*

Key to Theosophy, as well as with occult mathematics and other subjects.

Public lectures were discontinued as they were attended mostly by members. The Library is open one afternoon a week.

Three business meetings were held during the year under report.

Mrs Maria de los Angeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DENMARK

The two study groups held regular meetings throughout the year. There were four members' meetings on our own premises, including Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day.

Twelve public meetings were arranged in a rented room in the centre of Copenhagen. The talks were

advertised in the newspapers and on internet.

Some members attended the President's Seminar in Naarden and the Centenary of the German Section.

Mr Flemming Hansen
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

Only one study group is active. Questions like karma, death and after, reincarnation etc., as well as subjects of topical interest were studied. An 'open' meeting was held once a month to meet new interested people and answer their questions.

Nine monthly public lectures were held from October to May, attended by thirty-five to fifty persons. The subjects were karma, reincarnation, the law of sacrifice, some elements of cosmogony and education from a theosophical point of view.

Two members living about 200 km from Budapest held a study group for non-members, supported once a month by the Presidential Representative.

The late Mr László Reicher, who did much translation work, is greatly missed. *The Prophet* and *The Garden of the Prophet* by K. Gibran, translated for the first time into Hungarian (by a member), was published in August.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF

There is one Lodge, the Dublin Branch, in the Republic of Ireland, but a study group has been started in Limerick, attended by an average of four members and up to three non-members.

Lodge activities consisted of lectures, talks and study groups (on Hermetic and Kabbalistic Studies, *The Occult Way* by P.G. Bowen and *The Science of Yoga* by Dr I. K. Taimni).

Sixty-nine non-members in all attended various events. Mary Anderson visited the Lodge and gave two talks for members and non-members.

There are plans to invite speakers from other countries and to train some local members in public speaking and the dissemination of Theosophy.

Mrs Noirin Clancy
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

Mrs. Gool Minwalla, who was a pillar of strength to the TS in Pakistan for over 65 years, passed away in May.

In Karachi public lectures on theosophical subjects were held monthly in a five-star hotel and drew good audiences, although they did not necessarily result in new members. But the public is becoming increasingly aware of the Theosophical Society and its work.

Weekly members' meetings for study and discussion were held at the headquarters (Jamshed Memorial Hall). A reference section is being added to

the Library.

The Karachi Theosophist appeared regularly. It is distributed free of charge to all members and those interested and is also available to the public.

The Lodge in Hyderabad has revived, with 49 members. The premises have been completely renovated and it is intended to purchase about 300 chairs for audiences at public lectures. The Presidential Representative will visit the Lodge shortly.

Mr Dara Mirza
Presidential Representative

PERU

Fourteen public talks in all were organized on themes including aspects of Karma, The Esoteric Foundation of Religions, Ethics, the basis of Daily Life and The Origin of Suffering. A public course was held on Principles of Theosophical Philosophy.

HPB Lodge studied *The Mental Body* by A. Powell and organized meetings for members and sympathizers on 'Faculties of the Mental Body', 'Krishna and the Thief' and 'Dreams'.

The 'Verdad' Study Group, which

is applying for Lodge status, studied books by A. Powell and Plato's *Phaedo* and discussed theosophical topics arising from some videos. They went into the countryside on two weekends to study and meditate together.

Unfortunately, the magazine *Búsqueda* could not be published for lack of funds. Material was however put at members' disposal, including 'On the Watch Tower' in Spanish and the Spanish Section magazine *Sophia*.

New members receive monthly introductory letters for eighteen months. 90% of the library books have been catalogued. Books received from Adyar were added to the Library.

The Order of Service distributed toys and sweets to poor and sick children and donated books to prison libraries.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar
Presidential Representative

RUSSIA

The Lodge in Magnitogorsk (which has gained two new members) and the group in Moscow were very active, studying the *Bhagavadgītā*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Mahatma Letters* and *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*. Seven members participated in the European School of the Wisdom at Naarden, conducted by the President. On that occasion they celebrated the tenth anniversary of the renewal of theosophical work in Russia with the help of the European Federation.

In July Magnitogorsk Lodge conducted a nine-day Theosophical Summer School in the Ural Mountains

on 'Creating Character', 25 participants attending. A local television channel showed some extracts from the programme.

The Moscow study group held a three-day seminar in September on 'Human Nature and Interrelations'.

In August five members from Russia travelled to the Ukraine and attended the seminars conducted by Mary Anderson in Kiev and her lecture in the house in Dnepropetrovsk where Mme Blavatsky was born.

Mrs Nina Veligon
Presidential Representative

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

At fortnightly members' meetings subjects taken from, for example, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Light on the Path*, *A Study in Consciousness*, *Bhagavadgitā* and the writings of Krishnamurti were studied.

Public meetings were organized monthly in a rented hall, on subjects such as 'Head Knowledge and Heart Wisdom', 'The Power of Compassion' etc. About sixty persons attended. An average of thirty-six members and non-members participated in monthly excursions, including study and meditation. Seminars on 'Give yourself to Life' and 'Inner Listening, Transformation and Healing' were attended by about 250 participants. Special meetings were also held twice a week for young people, the subjects

being, for instance, 'Psychic Powers, Facts and Dangers', 'To be or not to be in the present moment', 'Come Back to your SELF', etc.

Eight introductory courses were held in Tel Aviv and outside as well as a course on 'Teaching Theosophy' and three meditation courses. The sixty-first issue of the magazine *Or* appeared.

The International Secretary visited Tel Aviv and gave three talks and a weekend seminar on 'Living Theosophy'.

Our mailing list includes about 2770 sympathizers. A 'Circle of Friends of the TS' pay the same fee as members but do not yet wish to join the Society.

Mr Abraham Oron
President

NIPPON AND OSAKA LODGES (JAPAN)

No Report

KOREA

The Secret Doctrine has been translated into Korean and published. The Korean Lodge President gives lectures to members. There is no

news from Daegu Lodge.

Mr Kil-young Lim
President of Korea Lodge

FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Two Sections held Centenary celebrations this year, the International President being the guest of honour at both events. The Italian Section Centenary took place in Assisi and more than two hundred members attended, including many from abroad. It was preceded by the eleventh seminar organized by the EFTS and the Italian Section, held in Rome, with more than seventy participants. The German Section Centenary and Summer School was held in Spandau, a beautiful area on the outskirts of Berlin. The theme was 'Discovering what is Eternal'.

The Federation organized activities at the ITC in Naarden, the Netherlands, the International President giving two seminars: on 'Self-Knowledge and the Search for Truth' and 'The Teachings of the *Bhagavadgitā*'. The Dutch and the 'Pays Latins' Summer Schools and a seminar by Aryel Sanat later followed.

The President's European tour included Belgium, Italy, Switzerland,

France, the Netherlands, England, Estonia and Germany. The International Secretary spoke in nine European countries, including the Ukraine, and in Israel.

Work in Russia continues with regular study groups meeting in Magnitogorsk (Urals) and Moscow. Blavatsky Lodge in Magnitogorsk held a summer school.

Thanks to the Financial Aid Fund, a large number of guests from Eastern Europe (Russia, the Ukraine, Estonia, Slovenia, Hungary, Rumania, Belarus, Lithuania etc.) were invited to the President's seminars at the ITC. The Committee for Help to Eastern European Countries (CEEK) continues to offer theosophical books to Eastern European members.

I visited Canada and spoke in several French-speaking lodges. I also gave courses at the School of Theosophy in Krotona.

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu
Chairman

INDO-PACIFIC THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

Theosophical activity continued regularly in many countries in the Federation. Information was received about theosophical activity in Myanmar, but it is difficult to obtain any details.

The focus of the Federation's work is to help smaller Sections, etc., in the area in the form of booklets and

information leaflets and, where possible, visiting speakers. The Australian Section's recent leaflet *Theosophy and Islam* was well received. The Federation Newsletter, which is distributed to all Sections and Lodges in the region, appeared twice.

The Federation President visited Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia in

April, conducting study classes and giving public talks. He was guest speaker at the Indonesian Section Convention.

The Federation is grateful for the continuous support of the Australian Section. Mr Matius Ali from Indonesia was their guest at the School of

Theosophy in Springbrook Centre.

No one was found to translate *The Key to Theosophy* into Chinese. A Chinese translation of *At the Feet of the Master* may be reprinted.

Mr Pedro Oliveira
President

INTER-AMERICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The member-countries and the headquarters of the Federation (in Brasilia) were closely linked by e-mail.

In May 2002 the Mexican General Secretary and a member from Costa Rica held a seminar in Spanish at the Krotona School of Theosophy, California, USA, on *The Secret Doctrine*.

Mr Alfredo Puig, the President of the Federation, visited the TS in Cuba twice and held public lectures and seminars. Dr Terezinha Franca Kind and the Bolivian Presidential Representative spent three weeks in Asuncion, Paraguay, reviving the theosophical movement there.

Mrs Kind gave a public lecture and a three-week course on *The Secret Doctrine* for members and sympathizers. Four new members joined the TS in addition to seventeen during Mrs Kind's previous visit in 2001. The Paraguayan membership has increased from five to twenty-six within two years.

Dr. Terezinha Franca Kind was elected President of the Federation at the business meeting held in Mexico on 12 October 2002, at which Rules and Regulations and Spanish book publications were also discussed.

Mr Alfredo Puig Figueroa
Former President

PAN-AFRICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The Federation is gradually getting established. Newsletter No. 2 has been distributed via e-mail. It contains news from the three English-speaking Sections and also articles in French. The website is also functioning.

Work continues in the East and Central African, West African and Southern African Sections. (See the relevant reports.)

Mr Tom Davis
President

**DIRECTORY
AND
MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Date	Section	General Secretary	Address	Magazine	e-mail address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr J. L. Sampat	... Box 40428, Kitwe, Zambia	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	ronaksampat@hotmail.com
1909	Africa, South	... Mr T. G. Davis	... 22 Buffels Rd., Rietondale 0084, Pretoria	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	thosgddavis@icon.co.za
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P. B. Kwakye	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	boulders@ghana.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mrs Aura Elena Pozas de Martinez	... Callejon Julio Mejia - Poligono E-7, Colonia Universitaria Norte, Mejicanos, San Salvador, El Salvador		elisenamartinez@hotmail.com
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore	... Casilla de Correo 166, 5600 San Rafael, Provincia de Mendoza	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	starge@infovia.com.ar
1990	Asia, Southeast †	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010, India	... <i>Lotus</i>	
1895	Australia	... Mrs Linda Oliveira	... 4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	tshq@austheos.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Franz Durkowsch	... Altmühlweg 5/6, A-4810, Gmunden	... <i>Adyar</i>	
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	
1965	Bolivia †	... Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez	... Casilla de Correo 3911, Cochabamba		viajero@comteco.entelnet.bo
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ricardo Lindemann	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)	... <i>Theosophia</i>	teosofia@stb.org.br
1924	Canada *	... Mr George H. Duguay	... 1667, Nash Road, Box 108, Unit F-18 Courtice Ont. L1E 1S8	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	geoduguay@theosophical.ca
1920	Chile *	... Mr Maximiliano Aguilera	... Casilla 3603, Santiago 21	... <i>Revista Teosofica Chilena</i>	sociedadteosofica@entelchile.net
1937	Colombia	... Dr Antonio Martinez	... Cra. 6, No. 56-40, Bogotá-2	... <i>Selección Teosofica</i>	gburgos@zone0.org and julialballesteros@hotmail.com
1997	Costa Rica †	... Ms Maria Orlich	... Apartado 8-6710-1000, San José		orlichsm@yahoo.com
1905	Cuba	... Mr Gaspar Torres	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600	... <i>Revista Teosofica Cubana</i>	teocuba@yahoo.com
1888	England	... Mr Colin Price	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA	... <i>Insight</i>	theosophical@freenetname.co.uk
1907	Finland	... Mr Yrjö Kumila	... Teosofinen Seura, Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Teosofi</i>	teosofinen.seura@jippii.fi
1899	France	... Mme Danielle Audoin	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	ediadyar@noos.fr
1902	Germany	... Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	... Friedrich-Wilhelm-Str. 54, D-12103, Berlin	... <i>Theosophie Adyar</i>	mail@theosophie-adyar.de
1928	Greece	... Mr G. P. Siviş	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Ilisos</i>	theosophicalgr@hotmail.com
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Thomas Martinovich	... Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011 Budapest	... <i>Teozofia</i>	tshutau7@elender.hu
1921	Iceland	... Mr Gisli V. Jonsson	... PO Box 1257 Ingólfsstræti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Gangleri</i>	ts@gudspekifelagid.is
1891	India	... Mr P. K. Jayaswal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	theosophy_vns@yahoo.com
1912	Indonesia	... Mr H. M. Soesiswo	... Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur	... <i>Teosofi</i>	icak@dnet.net.id
1949	Ireland N. *	... Mr John Doherty	... 2 Pineview Park, Newtownabbey BT36 7NX, Co. Antrim	... <i>Insight</i>	
1919	Ireland, Rep. of †	... Mrs Noirin Clancy	... 8 Hillside Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 - Eire		noirinclancy@eircom.net

1902	Italy	... Mr Antonio Girardi	... Via Quintino Sella, 32, C.P. 640, 36100 Vicenza	... <i>Rivista Italiana di Teosofia</i>	sti@telemar.it
1997	Ivory Coast * (W. Africa)	... Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh	... Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	... <i>Sophia</i>	pm_kouahoh@hotmail.com
1919	Mexico	... Dr Hugo Gerardo Figueroa Salinas Mosqueda	... Ignacio Mariscal, 126, Col. Tabacalera C.P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.		zetamex@psi.net.mx
1897	Netherlands, The	... Mrs Wies Kuiper	... Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam	... <i>Theosofia</i>	info@theosofie.nl
1896	New Zealand	... Mr John Vorstermans	... 18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3	... <i>Theosophy in New Zealand</i>	hq@theosophy.org.nz
1913	Norway *	... Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr	... PO Box 2974, Landaas N - 5825 Bergen	... <i>Teosofen</i>	agngaase@online.no
1948	Pakistan †	... Mr Dara Mirza	... Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinna Road, Karachi	... <i>The Karachi Theosophist</i>	azra1@cyber.net.pk
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	... <i>Búsqueda</i>	teosoficaperu@hotmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr.	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City	... <i>The Philippine Theosophist</i>	tspeace@info.com.ph
1921	Portugal	... Dr Humberto Alvares da Costa	... E. de Benfica, No. 678-C-1º Dto. 1500 - 110 - Lisbon	... <i>Portugal Teosófico</i>	halvcostastp@hotmail.com
1925	Puerto Rico	... Mr Benito Rodríguez	... GPO Box 36-1766, San Juan, 00936-1766	... <i>Heraldo Teosófico</i>	unionteo@prtc.net
1994	Russia †	... Mrs Nina Veligon	... Pereulok Soviet House 4, Flat 56, 455036 Magnitogorsk		veligon_ts@hotmail.ru
1910	Scotland *	... Mr Martin Lowe	... 28 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6QH		martinlowe@blueyonder.co.uk
1992	Slovenia *	... Mrs Irena P. Kristan	... Martinova pot 35, SLO - 1210, Ljubljana	... <i>Teozofska Misel</i>	Irena.PK@email.si
1921	Spain	... Mr Jose Tarragó	... Calle Pomaret, 114, 08017 - Barcelona	... <i>Sophia</i>	J. TARRAGO@terra.es
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr Tudor Jayawardene	... 84/3 Pepiliyana Road, Dostarawatta, Nugegoda	... <i>The Sri Lanka Theosophist</i>	
1895	Sweden	... Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	... Kalle Posts väg 48, SE-702 29 Örebro	... <i>Tidlös Visdom</i>	teosamf@teosofiskasamfundet.a.se
1910	Switzerland	... Mrs Anne Bornet	... Société Théosophique de Suisse, 17, Rue Ferdinand Hodler, CH - 1207 Geneva	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	edwin@iprolink.ch
1997	Togo *	... Mr M. Dam Tsowu	... BP 215. Atakpame		
1886	USA	... Mrs Betty Bland	... PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60189-0270	... <i>The Quest</i>	olcott@theosmail.net
1925	Uruguay *	... Mrs Ema de Souza Leal	... Javier Barrios Amorín 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo		samadhi@internet.com.uy
1922	Wales *	... Mrs Liz Parker	... Theosophical Society in Wales, 206 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1DL, UK	... <i>Insight</i>	

Date refers to the date of formation

* *Regional Association*

† *Presidential Agency*

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairman:* Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France. E-mail: kimdiu_ts@magic.fr
 Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mrs. Terezinha Franca Kind, SHIS QI 28 Conjunto 7 casa 18 - Lago Sul, Brasília DFF - 71.670-270, Brazil. E-mail: kindjala@lg.com.br
 Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Pedro Oliveira, 4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia. E-mail: indopres@austheos.org.au
 Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Tom Davis, 22 Buffels Road, Rietondale 0084, Pretoria, South Africa. E-mail: thosgdavis@icon.co.za

Additional Members of the General Council

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orléans, France (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mr K. Visvanathan (for 2001, 2002 and 2003) (deceased 1.3.2002)

Mr Paul Zwollo, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, NL – 1441 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023, USA (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mr Surendra Narayan, F-225-A, Sainik Farms, New Delhi 110 062, India (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mr Curt Berg, Mirabellbacken 11, SE – 165 61, Hässelby, Sweden (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Miss Mary Anderson, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2002, 2003 and 2004) (until 21.1.2002, when she became International Secretary and ex-officio)

Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez, Transversal 19, No. 61-32, Bogotá 2, Colombia (South America) (for 2003, 2004 and 2005)

Mr Conrad Jamieson, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2003, 2004 and 2005)

MINUTES

of the meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held on
Wednesday, 25 December 2002, at Adyar

PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for South Africa, Belgium, Finland, New Zealand and Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez</i>
Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President and proxy for England, the Philippines, Sweden, the United States and Miss Joy Mills</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary and proxy for Colombia, Germany, Mexico and Switzerland</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer and proxy for Puerto Rico</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mr Ricardo Lindemann	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Mrs Nilda Venegas Bernal	<i>General Secretary, Cuba</i>
Mr P.K. Jayaswal	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mrs Wies Kuiper	<i>General Secretary, the Netherlands</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Additional Member and proxy for West Africa</i>
Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for France, Italy, Spain and Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr Paul Zwollo	<i>Additional Member</i>

Present by invitation as Observers:

Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative for South-East Asia</i>
Mrs Mercedes Vila Robuste	<i>Spain</i>

The President warmly welcomed those present.

The list of proxies was read out as recorded above.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held at Adyar on 25 December 2001 had been circulated. They were confirmed.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

These were dealt with under item 10 (discussion on work around the world).

3. Confirmation of Voting*(a) Election of Treasurer for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005*

The President had nominated Miss Keshwar Dastur for election as Treasurer under Rule 13 of the Rules and Regulations for a three-year term from 1.1.2003.

The result of the voting was as follows:

For	Against	Abstained	Total
33	-	-	33

Miss Keshwar Dastur was declared elected Treasurer for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(b) Election of Additional Members for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005

The President had nominated Mr Conrad Jamieson and renominated Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations for election as Additional Members of the General Council.

The results of the voting were as follows:

	For	Against	Abstained	Total
Mr Conrad Jamieson	33	-	-	33
Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez	32	-	1	33

The two above-named were declared elected Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee

The Secretary reported that the grants to the French Section and the Swedish Section, amounting to approximately US\$ 8,510/- and US\$ 2,015/- respectively, which had been approved during the year ended 30 September 2001, had been paid.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Secretary presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ended 30 September 2002.

6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ended 30 September 2002; Executive Committee for 2003

Salient points from the Minutes of the Executive Committee were presented.

The following were appointed members of the Executive Committee for 2003:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>)	
Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President</i>)	ex
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary</i>)	officio
Miss Keshwar Dastur	<i>Treasurer</i>)	
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>		
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>General Council Member</i>		
Mr R. M. Tolani			
Mr D. K. Govindaraj			

7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2002

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2002, which had previously been circulated, were considered and adopted. The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory, in spite of a considerable fall in interest rates.

8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 2004

The budget for the year ending 31 March 2004, which had been previously circulated, was considered and adopted.

9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2004

Messers Fraser and Ross were appointed auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 2004.

10. Work around the world

(a) Scotland:

The Vice-President, who, along with Mrs Ali Ritsema, had undertaken an enquiry into the situation, reported that, in spite of their mediation, both sides seemed unwilling to work together. Mr Martin Lowe had been declared elected Organizing Secretary and his election was being contested, on the grounds that not all those who voted had been qualified to do so.

(b) Portugal:

A year ago, the General Secretary had agreed to amend the Rules of the Section. He had received the Rules of the Belgian, Brazilian and French Sections as models. The Rules should be amended by March 2004, when elections are due.

The Brazilian General Secretary visited Portugal and his reaction about the Section had been positive. It was suggested that contacts between the Portuguese and Spanish Sections should be encouraged to help and strengthen both.

(c) Australia:

The Australian General Secretary reported on the situation with regard to Gold Coast Lodge, following the Lodge's refusal to respect an agreement between the Section and themselves concerning the property that belongs to the Section and some untheosophical behaviour. The Lodge has appealed to the International President against the cancellation.

(d) Greece:

The General Secretary had given detailed and useful information upon request. It was suggested that the International Secretary might visit Greece during her stay in Europe.

(e) Scandinavia:

Contact with the public in Sweden, Norway and Denmark needs to be strengthened. One or two members known in the academic field may be sent to deliver public lectures, for example, the Vice-President or Professor P. Krishna. The Presidential Representative in Denmark has resigned. Consequently, the members in Denmark should for the time being become Fellows-at-Large.

(f) Membership:

Membership is tending to increase in Sections that already have many members and to diminish in smaller Sections, Regional Associations etc. Weak areas should receive more special attention without much delay. The situation in Indonesia has improved a little, thanks to some initiatives taken. The President and the Chairman of the European Federation visited Geneva, as there are problems of various kinds and membership is concentrated in one place. An effort is to be made to create interest in the German-speaking area; the European Federation is proposing to take some initiatives.

* * *

